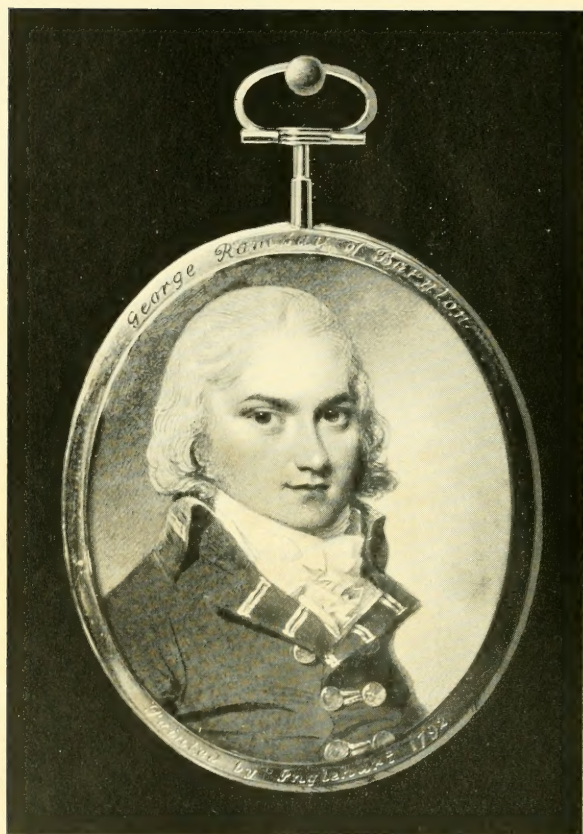


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THE HISTORY OF THE
LINLITHGOW AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT



1792.

INGLEHART.

MR GEORGE RAMSAY OF BARNTON.

From Miniature in the possession of Lord Torphichen.

THE HISTORY
OF THE
LINLITHGOW AND STIRLINGSHIRE
HUNT

1775-1910

BY
JAMES H. RUTHERFURD, W.S.
HONORARY SECRETARY

WILLIAM BLACKWOOD AND SONS
EDINBURGH AND LONDON
MCMXI

P R E F A C E.

It is perhaps mainly in consequence of a perusal of the hunting diary of Mr George Ramsay of Barnton, which was kindly lent to me by Mr Keith Ramsay Maitland, Edinburgh, in the year 1902, that this history came to be written; for although the putting together of some records of the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire Hunt had been attempted by me several years earlier, the difficulty in finding sufficient material for the purpose was so great that the idea had all but been abandoned. The pleasure derived from reading the little volume lent to me by Mr Maitland, however, induced me to make some further researches, and of these this work is the result. That it may prove of interest to those who now hunt or have hunted with the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire Hounds, I sincerely hope: and since it embraces the period (1814-1825) during which—the Hunt being in abeyance—the country was visited by the original Lothian now the Duke of Buccleuch's Hounds, under Mr Robert Baird of Newbyth, and Will Williamson his huntsman, and the period (1869-

PREFACE

1877) during which the Hunt and that of East Lothian were amalgamated under the title of the Lothians Hunt, it is possible that it may also possess some small outside interest.

To all who have in any way given me help—and I have received much from acquaintances and strangers as well as from personal friends—I render my warmest thanks; for without their aid the information which the book contains would certainly have been either less extensive or less accurate. The index was prepared by Mr A. W. Jones, Chester, and I am most grateful to him for the expenditure of time and trouble involved in doing so.

While these pages were passing through the press, the deaths took place of Mr John Ross, head forester to the Marquis of Linlithgow, and Mr William Shore, late huntsman to the Duke of Buccleuch, whose names occur in the text, and for each of whom I had much regard.

EDINBURGH, *December* 1910.

CONTENTS.

PREFACE.

INTRODUCTORY CHAPTER.

PAGE

THE COUNTRY. THE MASTERS, SUPPORTERS AND HUNTS- MEN. THE HOUNDS. THE KENNELS	1
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---

CHAPTER I.

EARLY RECORDS. SIR WILLIAM AUGUSTUS CUNYNGHAME OF LIVINGSTONE. THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT. .	24
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----

CHAPTER II.

LORD ELPHINSTONE. MR GEORGE RAMSAY OF BARNTON. MR WILLIAM MURRAY, YOUNGER OF POLMAISE . .	40
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----

CHAPTER III.

THE INTERREGNUM	68
---------------------------	----

CHAPTER IV.

THE THREE LAIRDS. THE HUNT CLUB	87
-----------------------------------------	----

CHAPTER V.

THE SQUIRE OF BARNTON	112
---------------------------------	-----

CONTENTS

CHAPTER VI.

THE REGENCY AND THE YOUNG SQUIRE OF BARNTON . . .	158
---------------------------------------------------	-----

CHAPTER VII.

THE LAIRD OF WALLHOUSE	187
----------------------------------	-----

CHAPTER VIII.

THE UNION	212
---------------------	-----

CHAPTER IX.

MAJOR WILLIAM JOHN WAUCHOPE OF NIDDRIE. MR JAMES RUSSEL OF DUNDAS CASTLE. MR JOHN GRAHAM MENZIES	247
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----

CHAPTER X.

CAPTAIN GEORGE CLERK CHEAPE OF WELLFIELD. MR ADAM PATERSON CROSS	273
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----

CHAPTER XI.

MR ROBERT, MR FRED, AND MR FRANK J. USHER . . .	295
-------------------------------------------------	-----

CHAPTER XII.

SIR ROBERT USHER AND MR ANDREW GILLON . . .	316
---------------------------------------------	-----

APPENDICES.

HUNTING DIARY OF MR GEORGE RAMSAY OF BARNTON . .	337
RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE HUNT CLUB, 1826 . .	350
LETTERS RELATIVE TO THE PROPRIETORSHIP OF THE HOUNDS, 1857	355
DECLARATION BY GEORGE KNIGHT, 1866	363
LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS, 1877-1909 (INCLUSIVE) . . .	366

INDEX.

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS.

	PAGE
MR GEORGE RAMSAY OF BARNTON <i>Frontispiece</i>	
HOPETOUN HOUSE, 1796	4
THE LATE MARQUIS OF LINLITHGOW AND HIS SONS, THE EARL OF HOPETOUN AND LORD CHARLES HOPE	12
THE DEATH OF THE FOX	14
THE DOG-HOUSES	22
SIR WILLIAM AUGUSTUS CUNYNGHAME OF LIVINGSTONE	26
RICHARD FORRESTER	34
JOHN, 12TH LORD ELPHINSTONE	40
CRAMOND REGIS, 1791	44
MR WILLIAM MURRAY, YOUNGER OF POLMAISE	62
THOMAS GRANGER AND HOUNDS	64
WILL WILLIAMSON ON SAM SLICK	78
MR WILLIAM DOWNE GILLON OF WALLHOUSE	88
MR WILLIAM HAY OF DUNS CASTLE	96
THE STAR AND GARTER, LINLITHGOW	110
MR WILLIAM RAMSAY RAMSAY OF BARNTON	112
THE OLD RIDING SCHOOL AT BARNTON	122
MR W. R. RAMSAY AND THE HOUNDS	134
LANERCOST	142
THE INN AT BROXBURN	144
BEDFORD (1830)	146

ILLUSTRATIONS

OLD HUNTING HORN AND FOXES' BRUSHES . . .	148
MR W. R. RAMSAY OF BARTON	156
THE HON. MRS W. R. RAMSAY	158
THOMAS RINTOUL	162
CAPTAIN JOHN ELPHINSTONE-FLEEMING	166
A MEET AT BARTON	170
CAPTAIN THE HON. JAMES SANDILANDS	180
BARTON HOUSE, 1860	182
COLONEL ANDREW GILLON OF WALLHOUSE	188
WALLHOUSE	192
OLD B'ORMIE AND HIS PONY, DONALD	198
COLONEL GILLON ON SNOWDROP	208
MR HENRY WALTER HOPE OF LUFFNESS	216
MR JAMES HOPE	228
JOHN ATKINSON	236
MAJOR WILLIAM JOHN WAUCHOPE OF NIDDRIE	248
MR RUSSEL AND THE HOUNDS AT DUNDAS CASTLE	260
MR MENZIES AND THE HOUNDS AT BINNY	268
CAPTAIN CHEAPE AND THE HOUNDS AT HOPETOUN HOUSE	284
HEAD OF THE GOLDEN FOX	290
MR CROSS AND THE HOUNDS AT CRAIGIEHALL	292
MR ROBERT, MR FRED, AND MR FRANK J. USHER	296
EDWARD COTESWORTH AND HOUNDS	298
MR FRED USHER AND THE HOUNDS AT INGLISTON GATE	312
MR ANDREW GILLON ON SMOKE	318
THE KENNELS, GOLFHALL	326
SIR ROBERT USHER, MR GILLON, AND THE HOUNDS AT NORTON	332

MAP OF THE COUNTRY.

LIST OF MASTERS.

THE LINLITHGOW AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT.

1775-1795	.	.	Sir WILLIAM AUGUSTUS CUNYNGHAME of Livingstone and Milncraig.
1795-1806	.	.	A Committee.
1806-1807	.	.	JOHN, 12th LORD ELPHINSTONE.
1807-1810	.	.	JOHN, 12th LORD ELPHINSTONE, and Mr GEORGE RAMSAY of Barnton.
1810-1814	.	.	Mr WILLIAM MURRAY, younger of Polmaise.
1814-1825	.	.	—The Hunt in abeyance.—
1825-1828	.	.	Mr JAMES JOHNSTON of Straiton and Champ- fleurie and Mr WILLIAM DOWNE GILLON of Wallhouse.
1828-1830	.	.	Mr WILLIAM HAY of Duns Castle and Drum- melzier.
1830-1850	.	.	Mr WILLIAM RAMSAY RAMSAY of Barnton.
1850-1855	.	.	Captain the Hon. JAMES SANDILANDS and Captain JOHN ELPHINSTONE-FLEEMING.
1855-1865	.	.	Captain the Hon. JAMES SANDILANDS.
1865-1866	.	.	Mr CHARLES WILLIAM RAMSAY RAMSAY of Barnton.
1866-1869	.	.	Colonel ANDREW GILLON of Wallhouse.

THE LOTHIAN HUNT.

1869-1871	.	.	Mr HENRY WALTER HOPE of Luffness.
1871-1877	.	.	Mr JAMES HOPE, Easter Duddingston.

THE LINLITHGOW AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT.

1877-1881	.	.	Captain WILLIAM JOHN WAUCHOPE of Niddrie.
1881-1884	.	.	Mr JAMES RUSSEL of Dundas Castle.
1884-1887	.	.	Mr JOHN GRAHAM MENZIES.
1887-1890	.	.	Captain GEORGE CLERK CHEAPE of Wellfield.
1890-1895	.	.	Mr ADAM P. CROSS.
1895-1906	.	.	Mr ROBERT, Mr FRED, and Mr FRANK J. USHER.
1906-1910	.	.	Sir ROBERT USHER and Mr ANDREW GILLON.
1910	.	.	Sir ROBERT USHER and Mr ARTHUR J. MELDRUM of Dechmont.

LIST OF HUNTSMEN.

THE LINLITHGOW AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT.

1797-1805	.	.	RICHARD FORRESTER.
1805-1807	.	.	ROBERT BURTON.
1807-1814	.	.	THOMAS GRANGER.
1814-1825	.	.	—The Hunt in abeyance.—
1825-1828	.	.	GEORGE KNIGHT.
1828-1830	.	.	Mr HAY of Duns Castle, M.F.H.
1830-1839	.	.	CHRISTOPHER SCOTT.
1839-1851	.	.	THOMAS RINTOUL.
1851-1853	.	.	Captain J. ELPHINSTONE-FLEEMING, M.F.H.
1853-1856	.	.	W. POTTS.
1856-1857	.	.	ROBERT PURSLOW.
1857-1858	.	.	HENRY NASON.
1858-1860	.	.	J. JONES.
1860-1866	.	.	JAMES STRACEY.
1866-1869	.	.	RICHARD HORTON.

THE LoTHIANS HUNT.

1869-1877	.	.	JOHN ATKINSON.
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THE LINLITHGOW AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT.

1877-1881	.	.	JOHN ATKINSON.
1881-1882	.	.	CHARLES ATKINSON.
1882-1884	.	.	Mr JAMES RUSSEL of Dundas Castle, M.F.H.
1884-1887	.	.	JOHN ATKINSON.
1887-1889	.	.	JAMES BEAVAN.
1889-1891	.	.	EDWARD COTESWORTH.
1891-1895	.	.	Mr ADAM P. CROSS, M.F.H.
1895-1904	.	.	EDWARD COTESWORTH.
1904-1906	.	.	THOMAS HALL.
1906	.	.	SAM MORGAN, junior.

THE HISTORY

OF THE

LINLITHGOW AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT.

INTRODUCTORY CHAPTER.

THE COUNTRY.

THE MASTERS, SUPPORTERS, AND HUNSMEN.

THE HOUNDS. THE KENNELS.

THE shires of Linlithgow and Stirling are quaintly described by Sir Robert Sibbald, who was born and lived at the Castle of Kipps, near Linlithgow, in a history¹ written early in the eighteenth century, dedicated to the Right Honourable Charles Hope Earl of Hopetoun, Sheriff Principal of Linlithgowshire, and to the Right Honourable the Earl of Linlithgow and Calander, Heretable Sheriff of Stirlingshire. "The Sherifffdom of Linlithgow, as it is now," Sir Robert states, "hath to the North

¹ 'History of the Sherifffdoms of Linlithgow and Stirling,' by Sir Robert Sibbald, M.D. 1710.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

the Firth of Forth. Towards the South-east and South-west the Waters of Almond and Breich separate it from Edinburgh Shire, and towards the North-west it is parted from Stirling Shire by the water of Even. Towards the West it hath part of Clydsdale. The length of the Shire from the mouth of Almond at Nether Cramond to Bedlormie is fourteen miles, and the breadth of it, where it is broadest, from Borrowstoness upon the Firth of Forth, to Almond Fala, will be some Nine miles. The figure of it is unequal, and such is the Quality of the Soil. The West part is mountainous and hilly, and the North-side and the East is plain and level; and the middle part sloaps much from the hights, both to the North-west and South-east. The South-west part is well watered with the Bourns which glide through it, and so is the North side and middle part." Stirlingshire, Sir Robert further states, "hath now for Bounds towards the West, Dumbartonshire, and for Marches there, Loch Lomund, and the Waters of Blane and Ainrick: and it has to the South, part of Dumbartonshire and Clydsdale: and to the East it hath Linlithgowshire: and towards the North, it is limited by the River and Firth of Forth. Where it is longest, that is at the North-west point, where it joyneth with Dundaff-Moor in Lennox, to the Nunnerie of Emanuel¹ upon Avon water, which is to the East, the March betwixt it and Linlithgow-shire, it will be twenty

¹ Now Manuel.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

Miles in length. And where it is broadest, from the Town of Kilsyth to the Castle of Elphinston, it will be about twelve Miles in Breadth. The Nature and Quality of its Soil differeth much, the West and South-west parts of it are Mountainous and Hillie: and the North part of it from the Town of Stirling to the East March is Levell and plain: and the South-east part is much of it a rising ground. The whole is well watered with the Waters, and the Bourns which run through it; and besides several Woods and Copices, the Seats of the Nobility and the Gentry are well planted: the South side is a mixed Countrey, fitted for Pasture and Corns: the North side is most fitted for Grains and Fruit Trees."

Mr John Penney, a native of Bathgate, also gives an account¹ of Linlithgowshire, written, most probably, towards the end of the eighteenth century, which, although like Sir Robert Sibbald's, bearing no reference to hunting, contains such a fair description of the boundaries and contour of that county as it exists at the present day, that it may not be out of place to quote one or two passages from it. Linlithgowshire, says Mr Penney "has the Firth of Forth on the north, Edinburghshire on the east and south-east, Lanarkshire on the south-west, and Stirlingshire on the west. On the east, it is separated from Edinburghshire, first, by the Breich Water, from its source till it joins the Amon; and, after this

¹ 'Historical Account of Linlithgowshire,' by John Penney, 1832.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

junction, the Amon forms the more remarkable boundary throughout its course to the Forth, except at Mid-Calder, where Edinburghshire intrudes somewhat more than a mile into Linlithgowshire. On the west, this county is separated from Stirlingshire, first, by the Linn Burn, from its rise till its junction with the Avon, which now forms the separation between them, till it falls into the Forth. The length of the east side, from the foot of Almond, on the north-east, to the top of Breich water, on the south-west, is nearly twenty-one miles; the breadth is twelve miles. The superficial contents of the whole appear, from very minute calculations, to be 121 square miles or 77,440 statute acres. . . . None of the protuberances of this district rise into lofty eminences; neither is its surface by any means flat. It is diversified by a number of small hills, which do not rise to any inconvenient elevation. The most remarkable of them forms a range, which runs from Bowden, across the middle of the county, in an oblique direction from north-west to south-east. Cairn-naple, the most prominent centre of this range, rises to the height of 1498 feet above the level of the sea; and Cocklerne, on the western part of this range, rises to the height of 500 feet.¹ The Kipps Hills, Knock Hills, and Druncross Hills, all form conspicuous parts of this range. Riccarton-edge and Binny-

¹ The Ordnance Survey sheets indicate that Cairnpapple is about 1000 feet, and Cockleroi about 900 feet, above sea-level.



HOPETOUN HOUSE. 1796.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

craig, may also be deemed a part of this range, and rise to a considerable elevation. The second class of hills, which are more worthy of notice, is variously distributed, throughout the northern parts of the county, along the Forth. Of those the most conspicuous are, Mons Hill, Craigie Hill, and Dundas Hill, in Dalmenie parish; Craigton Hill and Binns Hill, in Abercorn parish—from whence the beauty and grandeur of the prospect are unrivalled,—and Irongarth, in Linlithgow parish. The middle and western districts of the county are the most hilly; the east and north are the most plain. The southern divisions of this shire consist mostly of moor, moss, and morass, with few heights of any elevation. . . . In Linlithgowshire there are not many waters of great extent. The only lakes are, the loch at Linlithgow town, and Lochcoat,¹ in Torphichen parish. . . . Of large rivers this county cannot boast; yet it is well watered by several streams for every domestic purpose, while the Amon on the east, and the Avon on the west, are the only considerable rivulets.”

When the district was first crossed by hounds—and there is evidence² to show that at least a part of it was hunted as early as the year 1762—its surface must have presented an aspect differing considerably from that which it now bears. It

¹ Now only a marsh.

² ‘Morison’s Dictionary of Decisions of the Court of Session,’ *voce* “Game,” vol. vi. p. 4991 : *vide* p. 24.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

must then have been comparatively open in character, and therefore foxes and consequently hounds may possibly have run straighter than they do at the present time. It is stated¹ that about the year 1820 Linlithgowshire, as a hunting country, was decidedly in every respect to be preferred to the counties of Edinburgh and Haddington; that it held a remarkably good scent at all seasons of the year; that it consisted, for a provincial, of a very fair proportion of grass, and that it was “a flat and very pleasant and straightforward one to ride over”; while Nimrod, who visited the country in 1834, mentions² that it was then considered the best in Scotland. In those days, however, it was much less intersected than it is now, for although the Union or Forth and Clyde canal was completed in 1822, there were no railways and few mineral works—the lines from Edinburgh to Glasgow by Linlithgow and by Bathgate, and to Carstairs having been opened subsequently to the year 1840, and the production of shale-oil not having become an industry in West Lothian until about the year 1850. Nor had wire then begun to show itself as it has since, creeping snake-like over the land and rendering more than one district and many hundreds of acres of good old grass practically unfit for the chase.

Since the beginning, the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire Hounds have hunted no fewer than twelve

¹ ‘Sporting Magazine,’ December 1828.

² ‘Nimrod’s Northern Tour,’ 1838, p. 208.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

counties, namely, Linlithgow or West Lothian and Stirling—which may be considered originally to have formed the country proper,—Berwick, Dumbarton, Dumfries, Edinburgh or Mid-Lothian, Fife, Forfar, Haddington or East Lothian, Lanark, Peebles, and Perth. In addition to the shires of Linlithgow and Stirling, part of Mid-Lothian was hunted in the year 1790, as were portions of the counties of Dumbarton and Lanark in 1807 and some subsequent years. From 1825 to 1828 the west of Fife country and a part of Dumfriesshire were visited from time to time, and in 1828 and the immediately following seasons the Duns country in Berwickshire was hunted alternately with the counties of Linlithgow and Stirling. When the Duns country was given up in 1833, part of Lanarkshire was lent by Lord Kelburne, and the district around Dunblane in Perthshire received some attention. Then Forfarshire had its turn from 1838 to 1842, and in the year after that last-mentioned, East Lothian was taken over with the approval of the Duke of Buccleuch, and hunted in conjunction with the counties of Linlithgow and Stirling, part of Mid-Lothian, and certain parts of Lanarkshire and Peeblesshire known as the Carnwath country. In 1848, East Lothian was relinquished, and in its place the west of Fife district was again resorted to, Fife at that time possessing no foxhounds of its own. From 1855 to 1866 the Carnwath country seems to have been preferred to Stirlingshire, which then received only a small share of the fixtures, but

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

which at the end of that period was resumed, and until 1869, was once more hunted fairly with Linlithgowshire and part of the county of Edinburgh. During the union with East Lothian (1869-1877) the three Lothians may be said to have constituted the country, for the district lying to the west of the Avon was but seldom visited; while from its termination down to the present time, the area hunted has practically consisted of the county of Linlithgow, with the south-eastern part of Stirlingshire and the north-western portion of Mid-Lothian as adjuncts.

Turning from the country to the men who conducted the hunting establishment and to those who gave it their support,—it would seem that Sir William Augustus Cunynghame of Livingstone and Milnraig was master about the year 1775, and that after his retirement, which probably took place some twenty years later, the management was in the hands of a committee. Subsequently, John, twelfth Lord Elphinstone, Mr George Ramsay of Barnton, and Mr William Murray, younger of Polmaise, had the control from the year 1806 to the year 1814, in which the Hunt fell into abeyance; while after 1814, and until 1824, the Lothian¹ Hounds, under Mr Robert Baird of Newbyth, hunted the country periodically. In 1825, a renewal of the establishment was effected by Mr James Johnston of Straiton and Champfleurie,

¹ The original Lothian Hunt, now the Duke of Buccleuch's, established *circa* 1783.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

and Mr William Downe Gillon of Wallhouse, who acted as joint-masters for three years and three months. On their resignation Mr William Hay of Duns Castle and Drummelzier accepted the management, but two seasons later retired in favour of Mr William Ramsay Ramsay of Barnton, whose reign lasted from 1830 until his death in 1850. The conduct of affairs was then entrusted to Captain the Hon. James Sandilands, second son of the tenth Lord Torphichen, and Captain John Elphinstone-Fleeming, afterwards fourteenth Lord Elphinstone, the latter taking the chief charge until 1855, and the former subsequently acting alone for the space of ten seasons. In 1865, Mr Charles William Ramsay Ramsay of Barnton attained majority and assumed the control, but his mastership was a short one, for his death took place in the end of that year. Colonel Andrew Gillon of Wallhouse succeeded him and hunted the country for three seasons, or until 1869, when the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire and the Lothian¹ Hunts were amalgamated under the title of the Lothians Hunt. Mr Henry Walter Hope of Luffness was the first master of the conjoined establishments, his successor being found in 1871 in Mr James Hope, Easter Duddingston, who remained in office until the year 1877, when the union terminated. Then the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire Hunt was revived under Captain, afterwards Major, William John Wauchope of

¹ The second or East Lothian Hunt, established 1855.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

Niddrie, who, four seasons later, was succeeded by Mr James Russel of Dundas Castle. In 1884 the management passed to Mr John Graham Menzies, in 1887 to Captain George Clerk Cheape of Wellfield, in 1890 to Mr Adam Paterson Cross, and in 1895 to Mr, now Sir Robert, Usher and his brothers, Mr Fred Usher and Mr Francis James Usher, who, with Mr Fred Usher in charge of the establishment, remained in office until 1906. From 1906 to the close of the past season (1909) Sir Robert Usher and Mr Andrew Gillon have hunted the country — Mr Gillon undertaking the active part of the management — and although their resignation was received in the end of the year 1909, Sir Robert has since agreed to continue in office with Mr Arthur James Meldrum of Dechmont as joint-master.

From what has been stated it will be observed that in the earlier part of the Hunt's existence the masters were, with one exception, Mr Hay, landowners in the counties of Linlithgow or Stirling and the adjoining district, or their relatives, and that it was only after the union with East Lothian that the control came to rest with others. It will also be noticed that two families, the Ramsays of Barnton and the Gillons of Wallhouse, have each contributed three masters in successive generations,—the former being represented by Mr George Ramsay, his son Mr W. R. Ramsay, and his grandson Mr C. W. R. Ramsay, all of whom died while in office; and the latter, by Mr W. D.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

Gillon, his son Colonel Andrew Gillon, and his grandson Mr Andrew Gillon; that two Lords Elphinstone, the twelfth lord and the fourteenth lord, then Captain Fleeming, gave their services to the Hunt in directing its management; and that Captain Sandilands and Sir Robert Usher have each occupied the position of master for the considerable space of fifteen years.

Regarding those, other than masters, who have supported the Hunt—since the beginning, most of the landowners in the country, whether they hunted or not, have given their aid or countenance to the sport in one way or another; the farmers, although but few of them have joined in the chase of late years, have cheerfully allowed their land to be ridden over in the worst periods of agricultural depression; and many more, neither owners nor occupiers of land, but followers of the pack, have afforded pecuniary assistance. To enumerate all the supporters whom the Hunt has, and has had, would form a difficult if not a well-nigh impossible task, but without invidious distinction, particular mention may be made of the Houstoun family and the Hopetoun family, for the former during several generations has given every assistance in its power, and the latter, notably, all through the Hunt's history, has contributed much support. Within recent years the Hunt has had no better friend than the late Marquis of Linlithgow, who, although keeping two private packs, the Hopetoun harriers and beagles, was

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

always ready, as his son is now, to welcome the foxhounds upon his land. And although none of the main line of this family has ever accepted the control, there has probably never been a period at which a member of it would not have been gladly hailed as master, both by the subscribers and by the country.

Of a long list of Hunt servants, only seven huntsmen—Richard Forrester, Thomas Granger, Christopher Scott, Thomas Rintoul, James Stracey, John Atkinson, and Edward Cotesworth—have been in office for a period exceeding five years. Forrester was huntsman to the pack at an early date (1797), and acted as such until his death in or about the year 1805, when Robert Burton was appointed to fill his place; while Granger, who succeeded Burton, hunted the hounds from 1807 to 1814, the year in which the Hunt fell into abeyance. On the renewal of the establishment in 1825, George Knight became huntsman, but three years later was superseded by Mr Hay, who during his mastership (1828 - 1830) hunted the hounds himself. Scott followed Mr Hay and held the huntsman's place from 1830 to 1839, when he retired in favour of Rintoul, who at that time had seen many seasons' service with the pack, and whose term of office as huntsman subsequently lasted until 1851, in which year the master, Captain Fleeming, undertook the huntsman's duties in the field. In 1853 W. Potts came as huntsman, in 1856 Robert Purslow, in 1857 Henry



1904.

Photo by Elliott & Fry, London.

THE LATE MARQUIS OF LINLITHGOW
AND HIS SONS
THE EARL OF HOPETOUN AND LORD CHARLES HOPE.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

Nason, and in 1858 John Jones. Jones' relinquishment of the post in 1860 cleared the way for Stracey, his first whipper-in, who acted until 1866, when he was succeeded by Richard Horton, the last of the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire huntsmen prior to the union with East Lothian. On the revival of the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire Hunt in 1877, Atkinson, who had carried the horn during the union, was retained, and, with the exception of the season of 1881, in which his nephew Charles Atkinson was huntsman, and of the two following seasons, in which the master, Mr Russel, was nominally huntsman and frequently hunted the hounds, continued in office until 1887, when his hunting career closed. James Beavan came next, and remained for two seasons, at the end of which he went to Lord Eglinton, and Cotesworth was appointed in his stead. Cotesworth was huntsman in 1889 and 1890, kennel-huntsman and first whipper-in in the four succeeding seasons, during which the master, Mr Cross, hunted the hounds, and again huntsman from 1895 to 1904; while Tom Hall, who got the horn on Cotesworth's retirement, carried it for two seasons or until 1906, when he accompanied Mr Fred Usher to Berwickshire. Since then Sam Morgan, junior, a son of Lord Fitzwilliam's huntsman, has had the charge at Golfhall, and has hunted the hounds for Sir Robert Usher and Mr Gillon, as he will now for Sir Robert and Mr Meldrum.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

Turning again from the men—masters, supporters, and huntsmen—to the hounds, there is nothing to indicate where the original pack came from, or what was its strength in the Hunt's earliest days. The picture of "The Death of the Fox," however, painted by Alexander Nasmyth about the year 1795, gives some idea of the stamp of hound in use at that time. In appearance the hounds seem to have been small, perhaps not more than twenty inches in height, deficient in bone and substance, light in colour, and resembling the harrier rather than the foxhound, but showing quality and having great neck and shoulder. The pictures of different dates in which the hounds are depicted form in themselves a sort of history of the latter, and it is interesting to compare one picture with another since each, assuming always that the drawing is correct, serves to illustrate the type of hound existing at the time, and to demonstrate the progress which has gradually taken place in hound breeding.

In 1806, what was evidently the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire pack was advertised to be disposed of by public sale,¹ but it would seem that the hounds were not sold in this way, and eventually remained in the country. Three or four years later, fresh blood appears to have been obtained from the kennel of a Mr Harley Drummond, since the accounts for the year 1810 refer to a lawsuit at his instance for the recovery of the price of

¹ 'Edinburgh Advertiser,' May 20, 1806: *vide* p. 42.



A. NASMITH.

THE DEATH OF THE FOX.

From the painting in the possession of Lord Loughborough.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

some hounds which the Hunt had purchased from him.

The picture containing the portrait of Granger, painted by Douglas in 1813,¹ points to the fact that the hounds were then still wanting in bone, and harrier-like, although in character more nearly approaching the modern foxhound than those represented by Nasmyth. Yet it matters little what improvement in breeding had been effected at this stage, for in the following year the hounds were sold, and were replaced, on the renewal of the hunting establishment in 1825, by an entirely distinct pack. This, coming as it did from the kennel of the Earl of Kintore, and consisting, as his list for 1824² indicates, partly of hounds which had fallen to him on the division of the united Fife and Forfarshire packs, and partly of drafts from various well-known kennels in England, was probably made up of hounds of a better class than those which had constituted the previous pack.

It seems possible that when Mr Johnston and Mr W. D. Gillon resigned their mastership in 1828, the fifth Earl of Hopetoun may have purchased the hounds and offered them as a gift to the gentlemen of the counties of Linlithgow and Stirling,³ but it cannot be stated authoritatively that this offer, if made, was accepted, nor is it by any means clear that either Mr Hay or Mr W. R. Ramsay, on

¹ *Vide* illustration, p. 64.

² Appendix to 'Notitia Venatica' by R. T. Vyner, 1842.

³ *Vide* Appendix IV.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

assuming the control, took over the hounds as county property, and without purchasing them, as has been suggested.¹

In his short reign Mr Hay improved the pack in a wonderful manner;² and although there are no hound lists forthcoming to show it, he seems to have introduced a strain of blood which he had brought down from Warwickshire and had obtained from the old Pytchley.³ The one and a half couples of hounds represented in the picture containing his portrait, painted in 1830,⁴ if forming part of the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire pack, indicate a distinct improvement both in shape and in substance, and since the figures in this work are by Sir Francis Grant, it may be assumed that the drawing is good.

The large picture⁵ painted for Mr W. R. Ramsay by H. B. Chalon in 1835, shows some fourteen and a half couples of hounds which, although perhaps rather wanting in bone, have at least the appearance of foxhounds, and will be compared favourably with those portrayed by Nasmyth and Douglas. During Mr Ramsay's mastership the pack, notwithstanding the fact that it was strengthened by drafts from Lord Kintore's, the Duke of Cleveland's, the Badsworth and other kennels, was generally of Beaufort and Lonsdale blood,⁶ and possibly Mr

¹ *Vide* Appendix IV.

² 'Sporting Magazine,' April 1831.

³ *Ibid.*, August 1839.

⁴ *Vide* illustration, p. 96.

⁵ *Vide* illustration, p. 134.

⁶ 'Field and Fern' (South), by The Druid, 1865, p. 54.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

Ramsay never had a better hound than Bedford (1830) by the Duke of Beaufort's Brusher (1822)—Dairymaid, bred by Mr Nichol and entered in 1824 by Lord Kintore. But "Lonsdale blood was Mr Ramsay's delight, and he bought 17½ couple of them at the Cottesmore sale"¹ in 1842, while two years later he acquired Lord Kintore's pack,² which thus, a second time, found its way into the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire country.

Captain Sandilands did not care for a heavy-boned hound,³ and the picture⁴ of "The Meet at Barnton," painted by Stewart Watson, and finished about the year 1858, rather bears this out. At this period drafts were got from the Brocklesby, the Bramham Moor, the Berkeley, and other kennels; but then, as at other times both earlier and later, there were always hounds bred at home, and the sire most used was Sir Richard Sutton's Bajazet (1854) by Mr Lumley's Royster (1848)—Sir Richard's Barbara (1851).

On the death of Mr C. W. R. Ramsay in 1865, the pack, which a few years previously had been claimed as private property by Mrs W. R. Ramsay, was sold. The dog hounds were purchased by Colonel Gillon, the next master, and the bitches, which had been bought by Lord Eglinton, were taken to Ayrshire by Trueman Tuff, the first whipper-in. Throughout Colonel Gillon's master-

¹ 'Field and Fern' (South), by The Druid, 1865, p. 54.

² 'Sporting Magazine' and 'New Sporting Magazine,' March 1844.

³ 'Field and Fern,' *supra*, p. 59.

⁴ *Vide* illustration, p. 170.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

ship, the pack was afflicted to a considerable extent by kennel lameness, and each year fresh hounds had to be purchased in order to provide the requisite working number. These were obtained from many sources, the chief being the Cheshire, the Old Burton, Lord Eglinton's, and the Milton kennels.

When the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire and the East Lothian Hunts were united in 1869, Mr H. W. Hope purchased Colonel Gillon's pack, and shortly afterwards acquired the Lothian one also; but, after a season, very few of the hounds which had belonged to either remained in the kennel. During the subsistence of the union it was necessary, in consequence of the increase of country, to maintain a stronger pack than previously, and both Mr H. W. Hope, and his successor, Mr James Hope, acquired drafts freely, the most important in point of numbers being got from the Berkeley, Lord Middleton's, the Atherstone, Mr Meynell-Ingram's, and the Badminton kennels, and the most useful perhaps from the Badminton. After the first year of Mr James Hope's term of office, during which the hounds were lent by Mr H. W. Hope, the pack became the property of the Hunt committee, and continued to be so throughout the mastership of Major Wauchope, who obtained drafts from Badminton, from Berkeley, and from the Earl of Zetland, and in 1880 put on some fifteen couples of entered hounds purchased at Lord Coventry's and Mr Askew's sales at Rugby in that year.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

On taking the control, Mr Russel purchased the pack from the Hunt committee and strengthened it with drafts from Lord Eglinton's, the Brocklesby, the Milton, and the Hertfordshire kennels, besides using the Marquis of Waterford's Rutland (1880) by Milton Rifleman (1874)—his lordship's Redwing (1877), a hound which he bought when the Curraghmore establishment was reduced in 1882.

When Mr Russel retired, Mr Menzies purchased the hounds from him, and in turn sold them to Captain Cheape, who was the last individual owner of the pack; for during the two succeeding master-ships—those of Mr Cross and the Messrs Usher—the hounds belonged partly to the country and partly to the masters, whereas they are now entirely the property of the country. During his term of office, Mr Menzies obtained drafts from the Grafton and the New Forest; while subsequently Captain Cheape turned to Sir Bache Cunard's, the Blankney, the Milton, the Atherstone, Captain Johnstone's, and the North Cheshire kennels in order to get the number and stamp of hounds he required.

In the beginning of Mr Cross' mastership there set in a tendency towards home-breeding which grew during the period in which Mr Fred Usher had the management of the pack. Consequently, very few drafts were purchased by Mr Cross, and no hounds were put forward by Mr Usher which were not bred at Golfhall, although from time to time he had recourse to the sires of other

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

kennels, such as Earl Fitzwilliam's Chanter (1891), the Dumfriesshire Pilot (1894), the South Durham Streamer (1896), and the Lanark and Renfrewshire Raeburn (1900). At home, Renegade (1892), Governor (1893), Donovan (1895), Genitor (1896), Grappler (1898), Hamlet (1899), Sounder (1900), Delegate (1901), and the Atherstone Comrade (1900) purchased in 1904, were all used between the years 1895 and 1906—Genitor¹ most freely,—and there is still much of their blood in the kennel, notwithstanding the fact that many of their descendants went to form a draft which was presented to Mr Usher when he accepted the mastership of the Berwickshire Hounds in 1906.

Sir Robert Usher and Mr Gillon reverted to the old order, for, although continuing home-breeding, they did so at first on a smaller scale, and made up the working number required by the purchase of drafts. Since the beginning of their mastership, the Atherstone, Sir W. Williams-Wynn's, Earl Fitzwilliam's (Wentworth), the Cattistock, the Duke of Buccleuch's, the Brocklesby, the Grove, and the Puckeridge, have all contributed towards maintaining the strength of the pack, while Mr Forbes of Callendar has presented a number of hounds from the Hurworth kennel, and the Duke of Beaufort the Badminton Druid (1904). The Atherstone draft proved to be a good one, and

¹ Genitor (1896) by Governor (1893)—Grateful (1891): Governor by the Duke of Buccleuch's General (1886)—Rompish (1888); General by Belvoir Gamester (1882)—the Duke of Buccleuch's Starlight (1882).

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

their Dagon (1900) stood out prominently for two seasons as a working hound, being second only in his performance in the field to the home-bred Hostile (1902).

Owing to the want of continuity in the earlier lists, it is difficult to trace the pedigrees of the hounds, but there can be little doubt that there is not now any blood in the kennel which goes back in it prior to the union with East Lothian, and that the Lothians' list for 1872 contains the name of the last survivor¹ of the previous Linlithgow and Stirlingshire pack.

Before concluding this chapter, a reference to the various kennels occupied from time to time will not be out of place. The earliest known are "the Doghouses," which were built by Sir William Cunynghame on the farm of Lethem between Uphall and Midcalder, in or about the year 1775. These were probably used until the end of his mastership, or until the committee of management, which was afterwards appointed, began to act; but however this may have been, in the year 1797, the hounds were kennelled at Linlithgow, where they appear to have been kept until 1806. From 1806 to 1814, the period during which the management rested with Lord Elphinstone, Mr George Ramsay, and Mr William Murray, kennels at Laurieston, near Falkirk, were used as well as those at Linlithgow;

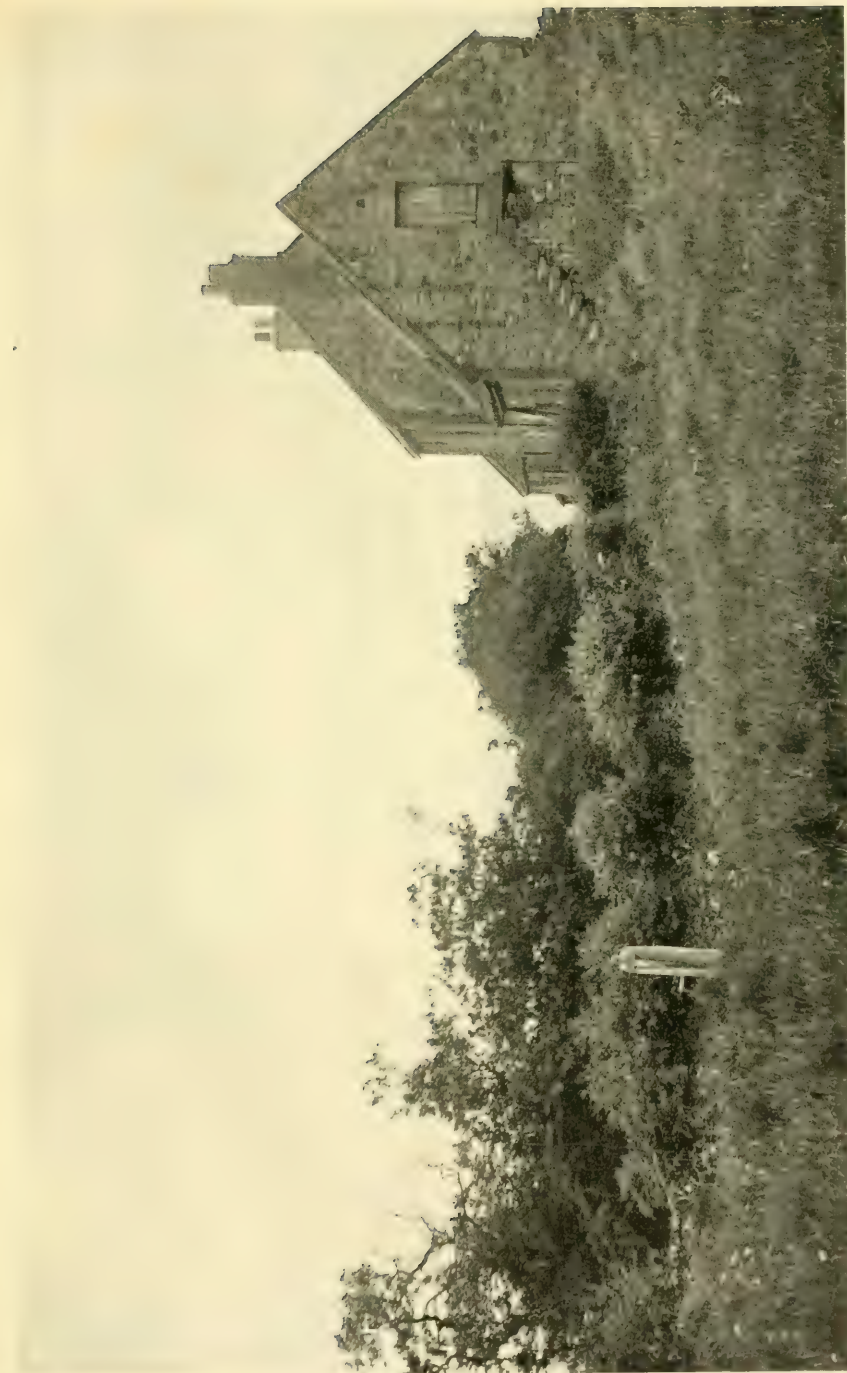
¹ Lively (1868) by Lucifer (1862) — Shropshire Bonnylass (1865). Lucifer by Belvoir Lucifer (1852) — Liberty (1854). Liberty by Auditor—Luna. Auditor by Dreadnought—Active.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

and it is probable that the hounds were accommodated at Barnton when the eastern side of the country was hunted, as they were at Hamilton when the Lanarkshire district was visited. When Lord Kintore's hounds were purchased by Mr Johnston and Mr Gillon in 1825, they were taken to kennels at Winchburgh, which had been occupied by the Lothian, now the Duke of Buccleuch's, pack during the period in which the Hunt was in abeyance (1814-1824). In the same year (1825), however, they were transferred from Winchburgh to new kennels erected by Mr Johnston at the Bonnytoun entry to Linlithgow, and from these they hunted the whole country except the west of Fife, the west of Stirlingshire, and part of Dumfriesshire. On the occasions upon which these outlying districts were visited, the pack was put up at Torryburn, at Stirling, and at Lochmaben respectively. It would seem that between the years 1828 and 1830, during which Mr Hay had the management, the hounds, when in the home country, occupied kennels at Kettleston, about a mile to the west of Linlithgow, and when in Berwickshire, the kennels at Duns Castle. Throughout Mr W. R. Ramsay's mastership the headquarters were at Laurieston,—the Barnton kennels, and subsequently others at Golfhall, an old inn and posting-house, receiving the pack when the eastern and southern parts of the home country were hunted. So long as Mr Ramsay hunted the Duns country, it is probable that he had the

THE DOGHOUSES.

Photo by Judd, Edinburgh.



AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

use of the Duns Castle kennels. When he hunted Lanarkshire and the Carnwath country, he had kennels at Newmains and Carnbroe, and at Carnwath; when in Forfarshire, kennels at Forfar; and when in East Lothian, kennels at Amisfield near Haddington; while the west of Fife district was probably overtaken from Torryburn or some other convenient centre. Captain Fleeming seems to have used the Laurieston, Golfhall, and Carnwath kennels during his term of office in the same way that Captain Sandilands did later. In 1856, however, kennels at Kersewell were substituted for those at Carnwath, and in the following year the Laurieston kennels were given up, and those at Golfhall, which had been rebuilt or repaired, were constituted the headquarters. In Mr C. W. R. Ramsay's short mastership there was no change, the kennels used being those at Golfhall and at Kersewell, but when Colonel Gillon undertook the management, he reverted to the Laurieston kennels, with outlying quarters at Hopetoun and at Uphall. In 1869 the kennels at Golfhall again became the headquarters, and there the hounds have been kept ever since.

CHAPTER I.

EARLY RECORDS.

SIR WILLIAM AUGUSTUS CUNYNGHAME OF LIVINGSTONE.

THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.

1762-1806.

IT is difficult to assign a definite date to the commencement of the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire, or Stirling and Linlithgowshire, Hunt.¹ In the year 1762 part of the county of Mid-Lothian, which, on the west, adjoins Linlithgowshire, was hunted by the Edinburgh Hunt,² and while it is possible

¹ In the earlier records the Hunt is frequently so called.

² Morison's 'Dictionary of Decisions of the Court of Session' contains the following report :—

1763. August 9. James Watson of Saughton, Thomas Craig of Rickerton, John Christie of Baberton, George Inglis of Redhall, and James Carmichael of Hailes, *against* James Earl of Errol, and the other Noblemen and Gentlemen of the Edinburgh Hunt, and Richard Vary their servant.

In May 1762, a petition and complaint was exhibited to the Sheriff of Edinburgh by the pursuers, with concourse of the fiscal, against Richard Vary, huntsman of the Edinburgh pack of hounds, for breaking down and leaping over their hedges and ditches, and riding through sown corn, and for hunting a pack of hounds, which he was not entitled to do ; and therefore praying, that he might be discharged

HISTORY OF THE L. & S. HUNT

that, in it, the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire may have had its origin, — the sportsmen of the time going gradually farther afield for the purpose of hunting, and discovering out westward in the shires of Linlithgow and Stirling a country well adapted to the chase of the fox,—it is also possible that both Hunts may have been in existence then, the former overtaking Mid-Lothian, and the latter the two counties from which it derives its title. But however this may have been, it would seem that Sir William Augustus Cunynghame, fourth Baronet of Livingstone and Milncraig, was master of the Hunt which forms the subject of this history, in the last quarter of the eighteenth century.

Sir David Cunynghame the third Baronet “died

to hunt in time coming ; that he might be found liable in damages to the complainers ; and that he might be fined in the sum of £50 Sterling for contempt of the law, &c.

A proof having been taken, the Sheriff found it proven, “That the defender, Richard Vary, has hunted with a pack of hounds on the grounds belonging to the complainers James Watson and James Carmichael of Hailes, after the wheat thereon was brieded, and that he once brushed through the hedge of an inclosure belonging to the said Mr Carmichael ; Found, that the said defender had no right to hunt with the said pack of hounds on the grounds belonging to any of the complainers ; and therefore prohibited and discharged him from hunting thereon in time coming, with certification. And found the defender liable to the said Mr Watson and Mr Carmichael in damages and expenses, and modified the same to £2 Sterling ; as also, fined and americiated the said defender in £5 Sterling, payable to the procurator fiscal of Court ; and granted warrant to any of the officers of Court to apprehend and incarcerate the defender in the Tolbooth of Edinburgh,¹ the keepers whereof were ordered to receive and detain him, until he should pay the said two sums.”

¹ The Tolbooth Jail or Prison. *Vide* ‘Minor Antiquities of Edinburgh’ (Chambers), 1833, p. 122.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

suddenly of the gout in his stomach at his house of Livingstone," on the 10th of October 1767, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Sir William. He, Sir William, "was many years Member for Linlithgowshire, and has long held several respectable offices in the public service. In 1778, he was appointed Captain in the Duke of Buccleuch's Southern Regiment of Fencibles; and having in 1779 received the appointment of Comptroller of the Board of Green Cloth, which vacated his seat in Parliament, he was again re-elected. During the late Administration in 1806 he was appointed Receiver-General of the land rents of Scotland. He married first, on the 21st of October 1768, Frances, daughter and heiress of the late Sir Robert Myrton of Gogar, Bart., in Mid-Lothian, by whom, who died

Against this interlocutor Vary petitioned, setting forth that he was only a servant; and therefore praying, that procedure might be sisted till the gentlemen of the hunt might be called in the process.

The Sheriff upon answers, refused this petition; upon which the Earl of Errol and others raised a suspension; in which they *insisted*, that, by law, they were entitled to hunt where they pleased, and were entitled to keep Vary as their servant to take care of their dogs.

Lord Edgefield, Ordinary on the bills, reported the same to the Court; upon which the following interlocutor was pronounced:—

"The Lord Ordinary, after advising with the Lords, passes the bill upon caution, prohibiting and discharging Richard Vary, the Earl of Errol, and others, contributors to the Edinburgh Hunt, suspenders, or any in their company, from hunting or pursuing game by themselves, or with horses, within the inclosures, or upon the grounds of the chargers or their tenants, and from trespassing upon said inclosures, till such time as this suspension shall be discussed; and that under the penalty of £5 Sterling *toties quoties*, to be levied from the suspenders, or any of them, conjunctly and severally."—*Vide* Morison's 'Dictionary of Decisions of the Court of Session,' *voce* "Game," vol. vi. p. 4991.



SIR WILLIAM AUGUSTUS CUNYNGHAME
OF LIVINGSTONE.

From Portrait in the possession of Mr Henry Cunynghame, London.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

at Livingstone House the 14th of November 1771," he had three sons. "Sir William married to his second wife on the 27th of June 1785 at Marybone, London, Mary only daughter and sole heiress of Robert Udney of Udney in Aberdeenshire, Esq.," by whom he had four sons and a daughter.¹

Sir William was thus by birth and through his first marriage closely connected with the counties of Linlithgow and Mid-Lothian, and in succeeding to the family estate of Livingstone in 1767, he was no doubt placed in such a position as to be able to gratify any love of the chase which he possessed. That he preferred hunting to other forms of sport is probable, for a few years after his succession he built kennels near Livingstone, evidently with the view of having hounds within easy reach of his home; while, when the Caledonian Hunt² was

¹ Appendix to Playfair's 'Baronetage of Scotland,' 1811, p. xcix.

² The Caledonian Hunt was instituted at Hamilton in the Upper Ward of Lanarkshire on 2nd August 1777, under the title of the Hunter's Club—a title which seems to have been changed to the present one in the following year. At its commencement the Hunt had for its Patroness the then Countess of Eglintoun, but since the year 1822, it has received Royal Patronage, their Majesties George IV., William IV., Queen Victoria, the Prince Consort, and his late Majesty, Edward VII., all having been Patrons. Originally, as its title implies, the Hunt had *hunting* as its object, and its first meeting was fixed to take place at Haddington on the 12th of October 1778, "to hunt for a fortnight."

On one occasion Sir William Augustus Cunynghame is particularly mentioned in the Minutes of the Caledonian Hunt. On the 10th of February 1807, he was fined a guinea for not dining "notwithstanding a written apology of indisposition, which was overruled, he having been seen walking the streets before dinner."—*Vide* 'The Royal Caledonian Hunt'; 1871, p. 1 *et seq.*

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

instituted in 1777, he was one of its twelve original members. And it may be observed that the fact of his having held "several respectable offices in the public service," and having been more than once a Member of Parliament, was not inconsistent with his occupying the position of a master of fox-hounds; for in those days a country was not hunted in such a regular and business-like manner as it is now, and hounds were taken into the field more or less as it suited the convenience of the master and members,—the fixtures not usually being publicly advertised, but merely intimated privately to those concerned.

Livingstone House or Place where Sir William lived, stood inside the remains of the Peel of Livingstone, an old fortified camp which was situated a little to the north-east of Livingstone village. Sir Robert Sibbald relates that "the late Baron Patrick Murray planted a curious Garden within the Peel, in which he trained up many curious Flowers and Herbs. . . . He inclosed large Parks, Orchards, and Avenues, which were environ'd with a Stone Dyke, by Mr John Elis, Advocat, his brother-in-law, and planted with many thickets of Oaks and Firrs, and other Barren Trees: the Nephew by his Brother John Murray, did build a neat House within the Peel, which is now the Seat of Sir James Cuninghame."¹ Within

¹ 'History of the Sheriffdoms of Linlithgow and Stirling,' by Sir Robert Sibbald, 1710, p. 21. The Sir James Cunynghame here referred to was the second Baronet, the elder brother of Sir David and the uncle of Sir William.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

a couple of miles of its site¹ lie the farms of Lethem and the Craigs, which seem to have belonged to the Houstoun family until 1774.² In that year, however, Sir William purchased them from Mr Shairp, and upon the former, on the west side of the road leading from Uphall to Midcalder, built the kennels before referred to.³ This building still stands, and although now occupied only as a dwelling-house and offices, it is to this day known as “the Doghouses,” and in it a room is pointed out as being that in which the huntsman

¹ The house appears to have been pulled down by the fourth Earl of Rosebery soon after he purchased the principal part of the barony.—*Vide* ‘Statistical Account of Scotland,’ 1845, vol. ii., Linlithgowshire, p. 117.

² The farms of Lethem and the Craigs are now the property of Lord Torphichen, but it is evident that Sir William Cunynghame was in possession of the former in 1780, for in that year he issued the following notice in regard to the preservation of the game upon it :—

“Game.—Sir William Augustus Cunynghame, being desirous to preserve the game upon the estates of Livingstone, Breich, and Whitburn, lying in the county of Linlithgow, and upon the estates of Gogar and Lethem, lying in the county of Edinburgh, hereby gives notice that persons are appointed to interrupt and inform against all poachers who shall be found shooting upon these grounds ; and he begs that any gentleman who inclines to shoot upon them will take the trouble to apply for a written order, that he may meet with no disturbance from the keepers.”—*Vide* ‘Edinburgh Advertiser,’ Friday, August 18, 1780.

³ Letter from the late Major Norman Leckie to the late Mr Fred Usher, M.F.H., dated Tuesday (November or December 1897), in the possession of the author. In this letter Major Leckie, who was a relative of the Houstoun family, states : “I know that Sir William Cunynghame, Bart. of Livingstone, was Master. . . . The Cunynghames purchased the farms of Lethem and the Craigs, between Houstoun & the Almond, from the Shairps in 1774, & Sir W. built kennels on the Midcalder road. They still bear the name of the “doghouses.”

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

used to dine. Here it was, the story goes, that the kennelman or feeder returning home from Midcalder one night the worse of liquor, and entering one of the lodging rooms of the pack, was set upon and totally devoured, nothing but his boots and one or two fragments of his clothes being found on the following morning. But the kennelman's life was not the only sacrifice on this occasion, for the Hunt lost a considerable number of hounds, all those which were concerned in this unfortunate affair having been immediately destroyed.¹

Among Sir William Cunynghame's friends or companions² were Colonel Gillon of Wallhouse, grandfather of the late Colonel Gillon, who was a member of the Hunt until the year 1821, and Mr Shairp of Houstoun, whose family has already been mentioned as contributing much support towards the hunting of the country; while the diary³ of Mr William Ramsay of Barnton shows that his son, Mr George Ramsay, upon whom the mastership devolved at a later period, knew Sir William, and visited him at Livingstone. In this journal Mr Ramsay makes frequent mention of his son's being "a-hunting," and under date the 13th of March 1790, alludes to the hounds being at Barnton.

"1790, March 13th.—Fox-hunting in the neighbourhood. A great number of gentlemen come here

¹ Mr Robert Martin (aged 77), gamekeeper to Mr Shairp of Houstoun, states that he has heard this tale from many persons living in the district.

² 'Political State of Scotland in 1788,' by Sir Charles Elphinstone Adam of Blairadam : 1887, pp. 230, 231.

³ Diary in the possession of Mr Keith Ramsay Maitland, Edinburgh.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

before dinner with George, take a little cold beef, etc., and return to the sport."

Seven years afterwards the hounds were established in kennels at Linlithgow. This change of kennel, coupled with a reference¹ to the existence a little later of a committee of management, is almost conclusive evidence that the control had now (1797) passed into other hands; and as Sir William Cunynghame's name does not appear in any of the subsequent records of the Hunt, notwithstanding his survival for a period of over thirty years, this will be a convenient opportunity to take leave of him and his time, in regard to which such scanty information exists. In the absence of evidence to the contrary, it may be assumed that his reign—which, if it began about the year 1775, as seems probable, had lasted over twenty years—had been productive of sport, and that he had been a good master. That he was at least both hospitable and popular may be gathered from the fact that the descendant of one of his servants, Thomas Bishop, late griever to Mr Stoddart of Howden, remembers having heard from his father that in his, Sir William's, time there were often as many as from twenty to thirty carriages at Livingstone House on a Sunday afternoon. Sir William died at his house in London on the 17th of January 1828.² A newspaper of the day bears that few men were more distinguished than he was "for elegance of manners, high

¹ 'Edinburgh Advertiser' of 25th March 1803.

² Burke's 'Peerage and Baronetage'; Foster's 'Members of Parliament.'

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

breeding, and upright and honourable feeling," and that "he was one of the few survivors of the old days of Scottish fashion, universally known, and highly esteemed."¹

It is most likely that the committee of management before referred to had been appointed soon after the retirement of Sir William Cunynghame; and it may be mentioned that, as the members of the Hunt from time to time elected a master or manager to take charge of the establishment and the hunting of the country, so also did they annually choose a preses and councillors to arrange meetings for the transaction of business, and gatherings of a social nature.² Thus it is evident

¹ 'Edinburgh Courant,' 24th January 1828.

² *Vide* advertisements in 'The Edinburgh Advertiser,' of which the following may be given as bearing out what is above stated :—

'Edinburgh Advertiser' of 14th September 1798—

STIRLING AND LINLITHGOWSHIRE HUNT.

A Meeting of the Members is to be held at Forrester's, in Linlithgow, on Monday, the 24th inst. As there will be particular business before the Meeting, it is expected as many of the Members as possible will attend. Dinner on the table at 4 o'clock.

General MAXWELL of Parkhill, Preses.
J. BOYD, Secretary.

N.B.—The Hounds will throw off at Dundas Hill on the 25th at 10 o'clock.

'Edinburgh Advertiser' of 23rd December 1803—

LINLITHGOW AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT.

The Members are requested to meet at the Hunt Inn, Linlithgow, on Monday, the 2nd January, to chuse a Preses and Council for the ensuing year. And as there will be other business of importance under consideration, a full attendance is expected.

The Right Hon. the EARL OF HOPETOUN, Preses.
J. BOYD, Sec.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

that at this period the Hunt was to some extent a hunt club, and to such having been the case may be attributed its survival of the sale of the hounds and the temporary abandonment of the establishment early in the following century, a matter which will be further alluded to at a later stage.¹

Linlithgow had probably been chosen by the committee as being, on the whole, the most suitable position for the new kennels, although those at Lethem must have been much more conveniently situated for the hunting of Mid-Lothian which, from an advertisement for lost hounds,² seems to have continued to be overtaken in conjunction with the counties of Linlithgow and Stirling. This advertisement, which appeared in 'The Edinburgh Advertiser,' newspaper, of the 27th of January 1797, mentions Richard Forrester, who was the

¹ *Vide* p. 109.

² STRAYED.

On Friday, the 20th January curt., on the road from Dalkeith
to Edinburgh,

THREE FOX-HOUNDS, one of which, a Dog, had five clips or marks made with a pair of scissors, on the right loin, and answers to the name of RATTLER; another, also a Dog, the like number of clips on the left loin, and answers to the name of SEARCHER; and the third, a Bitch, six clips on the stern or tail, and answers to the name of RUIN.

Whoever will bring the above Hounds, or give any information respecting them to Richard Forrester, Huntsman to the Stirling and Linlithgowshire Hunt, at Linlithgow, will be handsomely rewarded.

If found in the possession of any person after this public notice, they will be prosecuted to the utmost severity of law.—*Vide* 'Edinburgh Advertiser' of 27th January 1797.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

huntsman at that time, and probably had been so for a number of years previously. It is not known when he was born, but he married first, on the 20th of March 1780, an Elizabeth Forrester, probably a kinswoman, by whom he had two sons and two daughters; and second, on the 7th of December 1789, an Ann Smith, by whom he had two sons and three daughters.¹ 'The Sporting Magazine,'² which describes him as being about the year 1805 "a pottering, slow, thistle-whipping chap," refers to him as *old* Dick Forrester, and although it is possible that the adjective may have been used in the friendly or familiar sense, the above particulars concerning him rather point to his having been, if not actually advanced in years, at least past the prime of life. If it be assumed that he was then (1805) fifty-five years of age, and that he was thirty at the time when his miniature as huntsman was painted,—the face in the miniature is that of quite a young man,—it follows that he was huntsman in 1780. But it is not likely that this or indeed any portrait of him would be painted in the first season, or even the first few seasons in which he held the huntsman's place, and it may therefore be assumed that he was in the service of the Hunt some years earlier—possibly from the beginning of Sir William Cunynghame's mastership. The miniature, besides being

¹ Notes relative to miniature of Richard Forrester, in the possession of Lord Torphichen.

² 'Sporting Magazine,' May 1825.



RICHARD FORRESTER.

From Miniature in the possession of Lord Torphichen.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

evidence of the fact that the white collar formed part of the uniform of the Hunt at an early date, shows that Forrester wore the Caledonian Hunt badge. It is thought that the Caledonian Hunt never, except perhaps at its commencement,¹ had any regular hunting establishment, and that such of its members as hunted with recognised packs, or kept hounds privately, brought these to the meetings fixed from time to time. It is more than likely therefore that Forrester and the hounds had attended several of these meetings, either during the mastership of Sir William Cunynghame, or during the rule of the committee of management,² and that for this reason he had been presented with the badge, which he afterwards wore as a mark of distinction.

In addition to being huntsman, Forrester, from the date at which the hounds came to be kennelled at Linlithgow, was landlord or tenant of the Hunt Inn there.³ But as he could not well have attended to the business of the inn, and at the same time

¹ The Druid mentions "a Hamilton pack, with Holy Town as its kennel," presumably in the end of the eighteenth century.—*Vide* 'Field and Fern' (South), 1865, p. 218.

² Sir William Cunynghame, as already mentioned, was an original member of the Caledonian Hunt. Lord Elphinstone and Mr George Ramsay, who appear to have been hunting with the pack during the management of the committee, were also members of the Caledonian Hunt at that time.

³ From inquiry it would seem that this was the same as the Fox and Hounds Inn, a building which, according to tradition, had been in existence for several hundred years before being demolished about 1839, and in which Hamilton of Bothwellhaugh is said to have lodged the night before he shot the Regent Moray.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

have done his duty towards the Hunt, it may be concluded that his wife, who carried on the concern after his death, practically undertook the entire charge of it. He had under him, as whipper-in, a lad named Andrew Richardson, who is described as "dashing" and "straightforward," and from whom, no doubt, he received much help both in and out of the kennel. In the field, during the latter days of his career, he, although somewhat slow, was generally "there or thereabouts" at the close of the run, especially when mounted on his old ball-faced gelding by Dux, one of a race of stayers for which no day was too long and of which there were then several in the Hunt.¹

When Forrester passed away in or about the year 1805, the huntsman's place was filled by Robert Burton, who is stated to have been imported from some popular Yorkshire Hunt. The Records of the Fife Fox-Hounds² mention a Robert Burton as having been huntsman to the Fife Hounds in 1803, and it is more than likely that he and Forrester's successor were one and the same, a season in Yorkshire having elapsed between his leaving Fife and coming to the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire country. Burton is alluded to as "a very dashing impertinent fellow—a *divil* to ride and a *divil* to swear," and it

¹ 'Sporting Magazine,' May 1825.

² 'Records of the Fife Fox-Hounds,' by Lieut.-Col. Babington, 1883, pp. 14 and 15.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

is said that he did not care how he damaged the horses he rode, so long as he got to his hounds. Many a roll he got, too, "for he had *raw* ones to make, and *raw* enough they were 'in bodily estate' from the severe effects of their 'prenticeship" under him.¹ During his first season he received an allowance from the Hunt for the maintenance of the hounds, horses, &c., which, the accounts² for the year 1806 indicate, amounted to a considerable sum. These accounts were kept by Mr John Boyd, solicitor, Linlithgow, who for some years before and many years afterwards, acted as secretary and treasurer of the Hunt. In them, minutes, a minute book, and other vouchers are constantly referred to, and if these had been forthcoming much interesting information might have been obtained. In themselves, however, they are sufficient to show that it was the members of the Hunt who defrayed the expenses of the establishment without the aid or backing of a master, a circumstance which makes it clear that the committee of management was still in existence. And that the expenditure was seriously considered by those who had to bear it is evident from the fact that special authority was annually given by the members to Mr Louis H. Ferrier, younger of Belsyde, one

¹ 'Sporting Magazine,' May 1825.

² Volume of accounts among Hunt papers in the custody of Messrs Glen & Henderson, Linlithgow.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

of their number, to audit the statements of the treasurer's intromissions with the funds, which, after being carefully examined, were formally docketed and signed by him.

With the dawn of the 19th century the Hunt rapidly gained popularity, for the majority of the landowners in the country, although comparatively few of them actually took part in the chase, were encouraging the sport for the sake of their friends, and in so doing, were setting an example which could hardly fail to be followed by others. So, it may be conceived, many who were possessed of a desire to hunt were led to gratify it, and many more who at first may have been disposed to regard the sport with disfavour, were induced to adopt a tolerant and even a kindly attitude towards it. In course of time, no doubt, such of the farmers as could afford to keep a horse suitable for the purpose indulged in a day with the hounds, while the arrival, passing, or departure of the pack with its followers would then, as now, be a matter of interest and excitement to the villagers and country folk. Thus the Hunt had its bearing on the social life of the district, and having given birth to one form of social gathering—for some years past it had been customary for the members to dine together periodically at the Hunt Inn, Linlithgow—it was not long in producing another, the Hunt ball, which, as time went by, came to be a more

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

or less regular, and probably a very popular event.¹

But the days of the committee of management were now drawing to an end and, in the year 1806, a change took place under which the control again passed into the hands of an individual.

¹

LINLITHGOW AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT.

THE SUBSCRIBERS to the HUNT are to give a BALL at Finlayson's in Linlithgow, on WEDNESDAY the 10th NOVEMBER, at seven o'clock.—The Members and those Gentlemen who have been invited to the Ball, are hereby informed that the HOUNDS will be at the 12 mile stone east from Linlithgow, on the great turnpike road leading to Edinburgh, on TUESDAY the 9th NOVEMBER, at Half-past Ten o'clock; and that there will be an ORDINARY for the Sportsmen that day at the Hunt Inn, Linlithgow, at Five o'clock.

On the 10th there will be a COURSING MATCH in the forenoon, and an ORDINARY at the Hunt Inn, for those Ladies and Gentlemen who mean to attend the Ball.—Dinner on the table at Four o'clock.

General MAXWELL of PARKHILL, Preses.	} Council.
Sir JAMES DALYELL of BINNS, Bart.	
WILLM. MAXWELL of CARRIDEN, Esq.	
J. BOYD, Sec.	

—*Vide* 'Edinburgh Advertiser,' 22nd October 1802.

CHAPTER II.

LORD ELPHINSTONE.

MR GEORGE RAMSAY OF BARNTON.

MR WILLIAM MURRAY, YOUNGER OF POLMAISE.

1806-1814.

IN April 1806, the members of the Hunt were called together on particular business. This doubtless had reference to the change in the management, referred to at the close of the preceding chapter, which resulted in John, twelfth Lord Elphinstone, taking over the control¹ in the following summer, and entering into an agreement with the Hunt, under which he received a subscription of £500, afterwards slightly increased, towards the maintenance of the establishment.

Lord Elphinstone was then about thirty-six years of age. While Master of Elphinstone,

¹ There is a note in the handwriting of the late Mr W. H. Henderson, Linlithgow, for many years honorary secretary and treasurer to the Hunt Club and honorary treasurer to the Hunt, to the effect that Lord Elphinstone was master from 1794 to 1812. This, however, is not in accordance with the documentary evidence relative to this period, the greater part of which was most kindly placed at the author's disposal for the purpose of this work by Mr Henderson himself.



DOUGLAS.

JOHN, 12TH LORD ELPHINSTONE.

From Painting in the possession of Lord Elphinstone.

HISTORY OF THE L. & S. HUNT

he had entered the army, and by the year 1794 had risen to the rank of lieutenant-colonel of the Sixtieth Regiment of Foot. Soon afterwards he was transferred to the battalion of the Royal Americans in Canada, and when there, through the death of his father, the eleventh Lord, on the 19th of August 1794, he succeeded to the title. In 1795 he had returned to England and received the appointment of aide-de-camp to H.R.H. Frederick, Duke of York, then Commander-in-chief of the army; while in June 1801 he appears to have sailed for Egypt. The promotion in the army which he had hitherto received had been rapid, and his subsequent advancement was striking. He exchanged from the Royal Americans to the Sixty-First Regiment, and from that Regiment to the Twenty-Sixth Cameronians, prior to his being appointed a major-general on the 2nd of November 1805. In May 1806 he became colonel of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, and in the December of the same year, in the midst of his military preferments, he was elected a representative peer. About that time he was given the second command in Scotland, and on the 30th of December 1811 he was appointed by the Prince-Regent to take rank by brevet as lieutenant-general in the army. In addition to his other appointments, Lord Elphinstone was lord-lieutenant for the county of Dumbarton.¹

¹ 'The Elphinstone Family Book,' by Sir William Fraser, K.C.B., vol. i. p. 320 *et seq.*

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

The year 1806 was thus not an uneventful one in Lord Elphinstone's life, but his election as master of the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire Hounds, and as a representative peer were not the only incidents of note which occurred in it, since it was in that year also that his marriage took place. He married on the 31st of July, Janet Hyndford, youngest daughter of Mr Cornelius Elliot of Wolflee, and widow of Sir John Gibson Carmichael of Skirling; and soon afterwards removed from Ward Park, where he had previously lived, to Cumbernauld House.

Although the kennels at Linlithgow still continued to be occupied from time to time, others at Laurieston, near Falkirk, were also used, probably with the view of having the hounds nearer Cumbernauld; but as Laurieston is distant from Cumbernauld about eleven miles by road, the arrangement does not appear to have been a very convenient one for the master. Allusion has already been made to the fact that what was evidently the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire pack was advertised¹ to be dis-

1

FOX-HOUNDS.

To be disposed of by public sale at Linlithgow, on Saturday,
the 31st current,

From TWENTY to THIRTY COUPLE of good steady FOX-HOUNDS, in Lots
as intended purchasers may incline.

The Sale to begin at the HUNT INN, LINLITHGOW, at 12 o'clock mid-day.

LINLITHGOW, May 19, 1806.

Vide 'Edinburgh Advertiser,' May 20, 1806.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

posed of by public sale at this period. Such a step had most likely been decided upon in connection with the change in the management, yet it would seem that eventually the pack was not disposed of in this way, but was parted with privately to Lord Elphinstone; for the only reference to any sale of hounds at this time is contained in an entry in the accounts, of date the 14th of February 1807, which shows that the Hunt received credit for the sum of £104, 7s. as the price of "Hounds and others" sold to his lordship. Such a sum could hardly have been a full price, even in those days, for a pack of fox-hounds consisting of from twenty to thirty couples, but as there would then almost certainly be considerable difficulty in effecting satisfactorily the sale of a pack whose kennel was situated so far north, the Hunt would no doubt be glad to accept a nominal sum as its value, more especially when it was known that the hounds were to remain in the country.

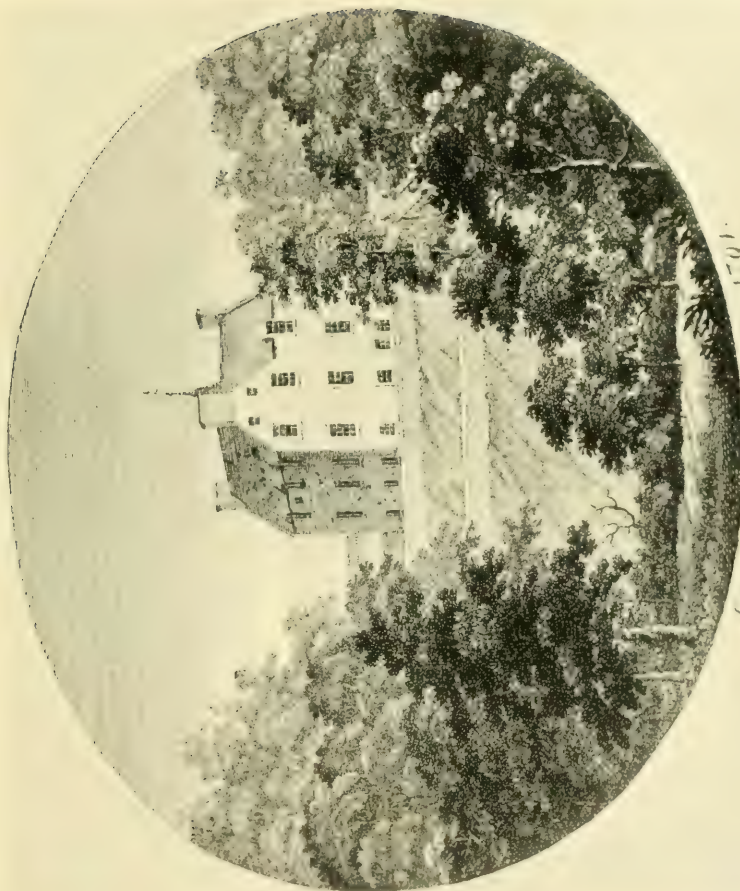
Lord Elphinstone had been in office but a year when he was joined in the management by Mr George Ramsay of Barnton, the only surviving son of Mr William Ramsay of Barnton, banker in Edinburgh, one of the directors of the Royal Bank of Scotland. Mr George Ramsay, who was born on the 10th of August 1767, began to hunt almost immediately after his return to this country from Paris in the end of the year

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

1789. His miniature in the Caledonian Hunt coat of the period, painted by Inglehart about three years later, is reproduced as a frontispiece to this history, but, unfortunately, the reproduction conveys no idea of the beautiful colouring of the original, which, worthy of the artist's work, is set in gold and diamonds. Mr Ramsay had married, in 1791, the Hon. Jean Hamilton, sister of William, seventh Lord Belhaven; and after occupying Drylaw House, near Edinburgh, for a year or two, adopted as his residence what is now Barnton House, but what was then King's Cramond or Cramond Regis,—the Barnton House of those days standing almost midway between King's Cramond and the village of Davidson's Mains. "To the north-west of Barntoun House, at the distance of about half a mile, is King's Cramond, also belonging to Mr Ramsay. . . . Very large additions and considerable alterations are now making to this house, which is destined for the residence of George Ramsay, Esq., banker in Edinburgh, eldest son of William Ramsay of Barntoun."¹

In joining Lord Elphinstone in the management, Mr Ramsay formed that connection between his family and the Hunt which was to last so long, and to prove so satisfactory. He and Lord Elphinstone were nearly the same age.

¹ 'State of the Parish of Cramond,' by J. P. Wood, 1794, p. 56 *et seq.*



Camond Regis in 1791.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

They had met one another in the hunting-field as well as on other occasions,—they were both members of the Caledonian Hunt,¹—and were at this time on terms of considerable intimacy, fostered no doubt by a mutual love of the chase. The picture of “The Death of the Fox,”² painted by Alexander Nasmyth, probably about the year 1795, portrays both of them. Mr Ramsay has jumped from his horse and has taken the fox from the hounds, while Lord Elphinstone is pointing backwards, possibly explaining that the huntsman is just coming up, or that another fox has been viewed stealing away. The figures of the men, the landscape, and the trees, are beautifully painted; the fox and the hounds also are natural, but the horses seem to have been the victims of a fashion, which, although now and for long departed from, was common at one time,—they appear to have been crop-eared.

Although Lord Elphinstone and Mr Ramsay were associated in the management, it is clear that the latter undertook the more active part, and early in the summer of 1807 he began to defray much of the current expense of the Hunt,—the huntsman receiving from him the funds which were required to meet his disbursements. Burton had left, and was succeeded by Thomas Granger, previously Mr Ramsay’s groom, who was born

¹ Mr Ramsay was admitted a member of the Caledonian Hunt on 9th February 1791; Lord Elphinstone on 27th October 1792.

² *Vide* illustration, p. 14.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

on the 12th of March 1765, and was therefore at this time in his forty-third year. A granddaughter of his¹ states that he was a very shy, retiring man; nevertheless he pleased every one by his civility and good-humour, gave great satisfaction as huntsman,² and in course of time received due recognition of his ability in that capacity. The whippers-in were John Hislop, who remained in the service of the Hunt for three seasons (1806 - 1808), and James Carter. The latter, who stayed one season only, was Granger's nephew, and son and brother respectively of the Thomas and William Carter, who are represented as huntsman and whipper-in in the picture of Sir Mark Masterman Sykes' Fox-Hounds breaking covert, painted by H. B. Chalon, in 1821.

The area hunted at this time was an extensive one, and from Barnton and Corstorphine in Mid-Lothian on the east, the country proper stretched away through the counties of Linlithgow and Stirling to Cumbernauld in Dumbartonshire on the west, and almost to Dunblane in Perthshire on the north-west; besides which the district around Hamilton and Wishaw, reaching from Lanark on the south-east to Coatbridge on the north-west, was hunted for a short period in the spring of the year, from Hamilton. The Druid relates³ that Mr Ramsay was wont to ride from

¹ Mrs Walker, Hereford Road, Harrogate.

² 'Sporting Magazine,' May 1825.

³ 'Field and Fern' (South), 1865, p. 53.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

Barnton to Hamilton, hunt all day and be back again at night by changing hacks at Cumbernauld. In order to have done so he must have risen early and retired to rest late, and when, from a measurement of the Ordnance Survey map, it is ascertained that the distance as the crow flies from Barnton to Cumbernauld and thence to Hamilton is all but forty miles, it is obvious that he must have traversed at least eighty miles besides hunting,—a performance which can only be described as wonderful. But Mr Ramsay, who loved hunting with his whole heart, would no doubt consider such a journey and the consequent bodily fatigue merely as the means to an end, and reckon these lightly so long as that end was attained.

There has been preserved a slim little volume, which, although unpretentious in appearance, possesses much that is of interest, since it contains the first records of sport. It is Mr Ramsay's hunting diary,¹ and in its pages are to be found a brief account of each day's doings in the field, the names of his hunters, and frequent notes of his weight. The diary, which is forcibly expressed—the present tense being used almost throughout in describing the events which occurred—is so early in date and gives so much information in regard to the country hunted, that it has been thought desirable to reproduce it. Those there-

¹ In the possession of Mr Keith Ramsay Maitland, Edinburgh.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

fore who care to read it will find it printed as an Appendix¹ to these pages. The following are among the entries :—

1807. Dec. 14. Drumshoreland muir. Fox went away (while Tom² and the hounds were in the large whin) as hard as possible, through Houston wood, over Dechmont, Bangour, cross the Glasgow road three miles west Uphall, kill him about a mile to the north of the road. Restless, Whalebone, Paddy, B. mare. George Ramsay's³ horse nearly dead in the field.

„ Dec. 17. Find a brace at Duntarvie, run through Hopeton wood, by Mid-up,⁴ Hopeton House, Dalmeny toun, Munch hill,⁵ to the sea east of Luchold, along the sea shore to the Halls, cross the road top of Halls brae, and right away back, kill near the garden at Hopeton House, cold hunting, hounds remarkably steady. Restless, Goldfinder, Mr B.⁶—grey horse.

„ Dec. 26. Saturday. Meet at 12 mile stone, find opposite Sir James Dalziel's, run to the 12 mile stone covers, west by Phillipstone loch, and south over Binnie craig where he was headed and turned north, kill him a little south of Dolphinton.⁷ Ploughboy, Whalebone, Mr B.—grey horse.

1808. Jan. 2. Find at Torphichen bridge—a brace,—instantly get hounds together, run south of Wall-house, turn north to Bowden, much running in

¹ *Vide* Appendix I.

² Thomas Granger, the huntsman.

³ Probably Mr Ramsay's cousin, a son of Mr David Ramsay of Craigleith.

⁴ Mid-hope.

⁵ Mons hill in Dalmeny park.

⁶ Possibly Mr Ramsay's partner, Mr Bonar.

⁷ This appears to have been a seven-mile point, Dolphinton or Dolphington being near Dalmeny.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

the cover, run a fox towards Muiravonside, cross the water, bothered with Livingstone's¹ harriers, return to Bowden, find again, run towards Genl. Ferrier's,² through Dr Seton's³ near the new manse south of Lithgow, turn over the hill west of Riccarton, down through the cover over Binnie craig, kill south of Binnie House. Murray⁴ and myself only up with the hounds, having gone round south side of Cockle Roy; famous run. Whalebone, Murray his old horse. Cavendish at a standstill, old Paddy, grey horse.

1808. Jan. 19. Torphichen bridge. Find outside of the cover, run west and back again to Torphichen town by Wallhouse, thro' the cover again to Bowden,—three foxes at least on foot—one goes away from east end of Bowden over Cockle Roy, south towards Bathgate, hounds split, Elphinstone and I follow some hounds east as far as Uphall,—he goes home, and I come to K. Cd.⁵ P. Boy, Goldfinder, Mr B.—grey. Lord E.⁶—chestnut Star.

„ Mar. 5. Find at Drumshoreland muir, run north to Winchburgh,—hounds streaming along,—lose him. Try at Sir James Dalziel's⁷ Phillipstone mill, &c. Find in a small covert south of three mile town, run east and then north to near 12 mile stone covers, turn short south, cross the Riccarton road, by Binny House, south of the craig to Riccarton cover, through the south side of it, over the hill west and south, kill at Silver Craigs lime works. Restless, Whalebone, Paddy, B. mare, Ld.

¹ Mr Thomas Livingstone of Parkhall, Stirlingshire.

² General Ferrier of Belsyde.

³ Dr Seton of Preston.

⁴ Mr William Murray, yr. of Polmaise, Stirlingshire.

⁵ King's Cramond, now Barnton House, Mr Ramsay's residence.

⁶ Lord Elphinstone.

⁷ Sir James Dalryell of the Binns.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

E.—Star, not up. A famous run, Murray, Louis Ferrier,¹ —, —, —,² farmer Duncan, come up immediately. Hislop³ and myself first. Granger not far behind. Horses all tired.

1808. Mar. 14. Cockle Roy, Bowden, Mr Ferrier's. Find south of Bowden, run through Bowden, by Muir-avonside, west, and kill near the west end of Mr Livingstone's young cover in the gill. Ploughboy, Major, Mr B. — mare. A famous run—the fox got up at view and ran through several fields without ever breaking view.

.. Oct. 1. Find at Bonny Hill two foxes. A number of [hounds] tumble into an iron-stone pit. Lambton, Cruiser, Herdsman, and Strenuous killed. No sport, not out.

1809. Feb. 23. Try Ravelrig—round cover under it, find at Drumshoreland, fox stole away from north-east corner large field, run across main lane to the House of Amondell, by Illiston, Kilpunt, west of Newliston and Humbie, to Duddingstone wood, Duntarvie, and to ground Hopeton wood—famous run. Large field,—Huntly,⁴ Dalhousie,⁵ M'Lean,⁶ Wallace,⁷ Murray, Binning,⁸ Davie M'Dowall.⁹ Hounds behave uncommonly well.

„ Feb. 25. Riccarton. Find at upper end, run east and down the road to north end of cover, right over

¹ Mr Louis H. Ferrier, yr. of Belsyde.

² Two words illegible.

³ John Hislop, 1st whipper-in.

⁴ The Marquis of Huntly.

⁵ The Earl of Dalhousie.

⁶ Major Maclean of Ardgour.

⁷ Mr James M. Wallace.

⁸ Mr D. Monro Binning of Auchenbowie, Stirlingshire.

⁹ Captain David Macdowall, R.N., son of Mr William Macdowall of Castle Semple.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

the hill, west of cover, along the belt north to lime quarries, over Cockle Roy, Bowden, down to Bo'ness road, kill in belt west of Bellside, right-hand side of lane to Bowden.—Famous run.

Besides Mr Ramsay's diary there exists another relic of this period in the shape of Granger's disbursement book,¹ and it is fortunate that this has been cared for, because, with the information which it affords, it is possible to form an almost accurate idea of the cost of the establishment a hundred years ago. It shows that through Granger's hands passed considerable sums of money—the whole expenses connected with the kennel and stable, as well as the wages and board-wages of the Hunt servants,—and from it the statement on the three following pages has been compiled.

Apparently the only items connected with the maintenance of the establishment which were not paid through Granger were the rent of the kennels at Linlithgow,—there is no evidence of any rent having been paid for those at Laurieston,—the taxes on the servants, hounds and horses, and the cost of the servants' clothes. The rent of the kennels at Linlithgow was £3, 3s., the taxes amounted in the year 1806 to £33, 8s. 8d., and the cost of the servants' clothes may be reasonably estimated at £30. By halving the total of the disbursements and adding these figures to the result, it would seem that the annual cost slightly exceeded £800, which, having regard to the high

¹ In the possession of Mr Keith Ramsay Maitland, Edinburgh.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

STATEMENT OF THE HUNTSMAN'S DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE TWO YEARS ENDING 6TH JUNE 1809.

To 23 Load of Oatmeal	£63	16	0
" 36 Bolls "	49	6	0
" 161 Dog Horses	38	7	0
" Brimstone and Oil for Dressing Hounds, Ointment, Drugs, &c.	9	19	8
	<hr/>		
	£161	8	8
To 60 Bolls of Oats	£79	16	6
" 1000 Stone of Hay	41	13	4
" Leading Hay, Stacking, Stacks-topping, Tolls, and Whisky, Beer, &c.	11	5	11
" 80½ Threave of Straw	26	18	0
" 770 Stone "	20	5	2½
" Straw got in 1806-1807	3	5	4
" 5 Bolls of Bran	2	0	0
" Drugs for Stables	2	7	9½
	<hr/>		
		187	12 1
To Thomas Granger—			
Wages from May 15, 1807,			
to May 15, 1809, at			
£105 per annum	£210	0	0
" John Hislop—			
Wages from May 15, 1807,			
to May 31, 1809, at £63			
per annum	128	15	4
" James Carter—			
Wages from May 15, 1807,			
to May 15, 1808	63	0	0
" Christopher Scott—			
Wages from May 15, 1808,			
to May 15, 1809	18	18	0
" Henderson, Dog-feeder—			
Wages from Nov. 24, 1807,			
to May 7, 1808, at 3s.			
per day	24	15	0
	<hr/>		
Fwd.	£445	8	4
	<hr/>		
	£349	0	9

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

	Bt. fwd. .	£445 8 4	£349 0 9
To George Fobert—			
Wages from June 14, 1808,			
to Sept. 23, 1808, at			
10s. 6d. per weeke .		7 11 6	
Wages from Sept. 23, 1808,			
to June 4, 1809, at £1, 1s.			
per weeke		37 19 0	
" Other Servants' Wages. .		84 16 0	
" Various Servants, including			
Christopher Scott,—Board			
Wages		64 8 9	
		<hr/>	640 3 7
To Earthstoppers at L'ithgow,			
Trafagon, ¹ West Quarter,			
Bonnyhill, Hopetoun, Tor-			
wood, Plean Bank, Redding,			
and Dundas Hill	£14 14 6		
" Lord Hopetoun's Keeper .	1 1 0		
	<hr/>		15 15 6
To 113 Cart Load of Coals .	£15 7 4		
" Soape, Candles, Oil, &c. .	13 2 2		
	<hr/>		28 9 6
To Blacksmith Bill	£8 17 3		
" Saddler Bill at Falkirk .	2 10 0		
" Saddler Bill at Falkirk for			
1806-1807	2 7 9		
" 12 Whip Thongs.	1 2 0		
" 3 Whip Crops	1 1 0		
	<hr/>		15 18 0
To Joiner Learmonth Bill . .	£73 0 0		
" Joiner Nimmo Bill . . .	7 4 8		
	<hr/>		80 4 8
To House Rent for one year .			3 3 0
To Expense to Yorkshire . .	£9 0 0		
" Coach Hire from England .	9 12 0		
" a Post Horse for Hislop .	0 10 0		
" Turnpikes	8 10 6		
	<hr/>		27 12 6
		<hr/>	
	Fwd. . . .	£1160 7 6	

¹ Torphichen.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

	Bt. fwd.	. . £1160	7	6
To a Man for a Fox at Cramond				
River	£0	2	6	
" Digging a Fox	0	2	6	
			0	5
Miscellaneous			16	8
			16	8
			0	9
			£1177	1
			3	
To Expenses of Hounds and Horses				
at Hamilton ¹	£51	14	1	
" Earthstopper Bill at Hamilton	24	16	0	
" Servants 21 Days (Board) . .	23	16	6	
To Expenses at Hamilton ² :—				
Oats and Beans	65	19	4	
Hay	18	11	0	
Oatmeal	25	4	3	
Dog Horses	2	8	0	
Saddler	0	12	0	
Earthstopper Bill	36	0	6	
Servants' Eating and				
Drinking	48	14	6	
Blacksmith Bill	1	9	3	
Hounds lost	0	5	0	
Tolls and Turnpikes	0	19	0	
Miscellaneous	2	1	0	
			302	10
			5	
			£1479	11
			8	
By Cash of Genl. Maxwell for				
Dung sold to him	£18	12	0	
By Cash of Mr Ramsay (various				
dates)	1460	19	8	
			£1479	11
			8	

This Account settled,

"GEORGE RAMSAY,"

Edinr., 6th June 1809.

¹ From about March 22 to April 12, 1808.

² From about March 8 to April 5, 1809.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

prices prevalent at that time, was not extravagant for the maintenance of a pack of fox-hounds hunting three and occasionally four days a-week. But the expense of the short visit to Lanarkshire was comparatively great; and had the hounds been able to hunt that district from their own kennel, or had they remained in the home country instead, a considerable saving would have been effected.

The Hunt had now reached the zenith of its fame, and many sportsmen besides those immediately connected with the counties of Linlithgow and Stirling were either hunting with or subscribing to the hounds. In addition to Lord Elphinstone and Mr Ramsay, there were the Earl of Hopetoun and his brothers the Hon. John Hope and the Hon. Alexander Hope, the Duke of Montrose, Lord Primrose and his brother the Hon. F. W. Primrose, the Marquis of Douglas, afterwards Duke of Hamilton, and his brother Lord Archibald Hamilton, Lord Keith and Captain, afterwards Admiral, the Hon. Charles Elphinstone-Fleeming—uncle and brother respectively of Lord Elphinstone—Mr John Smellie, Mr James Graham of Underwood, Mr Thomas Graham of Airth, the Earl of Dalhousie, Mr James Watson of Saughton, Major G. Hamilton Dundas of Duddingston, Mr William Macdowall of Castle Semple and his son Captain David Macdowall, R.N., Sir John Hope of Craighall, Mr James J. Cadell of Grange, Colonel F. Simpson of Plean, Mr James M. Wal-

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

lace of Kelly, Mr H. D. Erskine, afterwards Earl of Buchan, son of the Hon. Henry Erskine of Amondell Dean of the Faculty of Advocates, and nephew of the Lord Chancellor, Mr James Bruce of Kinnaird, Mr Louis H. Ferrier, younger of Belsyde, Mr D. Monro Binning of Auchenbowie, the Hon. George Abercromby, afterwards Lord Abercromby, Mr William Murray, younger of Polmaise, Sir James Dalyell of The Binns, and Captain Robert Dalyell, Mr Michael Nicolson of Carnock, Mr James Russel of Woodside, the Marquis of Huntly, Major Maclean of Ardgour, Captain the Hon. A. Murray, Mr William Maxwell of Carriden, General Maxwell, Colonel Maxwell, Mr Thomas Livingstone of Parkhall, and Mr James Wilkie of Foulden ; also, within the next few years, Sir James Riddell of Mount-riddell, Captain, afterwards Admiral, William Johnstone Hope, R.N., Sir Charles Edmonstone of Duntreath, Mr James J. Hope Vere of Blackwood and Craigiehall, and Sir Michael Shaw Stewart of Greenock.

At this time a race meeting was held at Stirling annually in the autumn of the year, and with such stewards as the Duke of Montrose, Lord Primrose, Lord Kinnoull, Lord Doune, the Hon. George Abercromby, Lord Elphinstone, and Mr Ramsay, and with the hounds, by arrangement, hunting the surrounding country, the meeting was no doubt a popular one. The Linlithgow and Stirlingshire Hunt Stakes “of five guineas each for hunters *bonâ fide* the property of the members qualified

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

in terms of the articles" formed a prominent event, and with ordinaries daily, and balls in the evening, the county town was probably created a centre of attraction, full, to overflowing, of the beauty, sportsmen, and fashion of the day. In the year 1808, the Hunt Stakes being run for on the 12th of October, the hounds were at Stirling for a fortnight, meeting at Sauchie, Dunmore Park, Hunters' Folly, Denovan, Keir, &c. The Hunt staff remained the same as in the previous season, except that Christopher Scott had succeeded Carter as second whipper-in. Scott, who at a later period became huntsman under Mr Ramsay's son, Mr W. R. Ramsay, had been, as a lad, in the stables of Colonel Hamilton of Pencaitland in East Lothian. Wishing to get into hunt service, he obtained permission to see Mr Baird of Newbyth, who was in want of a whipper-in; but it turned out that the day before he did so the place was promised to Will Williamson, afterwards huntsman to the Duke of Buccleuch, and all that Mr Baird could do for him was to send him on to Lord Elphinstone, who was then looking out for a whipper-in for Lord Kintore. Scott accordingly proceeded to Ward Park, Cumbernauld, and there saw Lord Elphinstone, who had with him Mr Ramsay. "Can you holloa?" said Lord Elphinstone; and on Scott doing so to some purpose, "That will do; go to Keith Hall and give this letter to Lord Kintore." Scott's further journey had a successful issue, for shortly after his

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

arrival at Keith Hall he was engaged by Lord Kintore—he and Will Williamson thus being entered to hounds in the same year.¹

The commencement of the season of 1809 saw Lord Elphinstone and Mr Ramsay still at the head of affairs, with Granger as huntsman. Hislop, however, had left, Scott had been promoted to fill his place, and Thomas Luck had been engaged as second whipper-in. Although the subscriptions had slightly fallen off, the Hunt was still popular, and consequently prosperous, and its horizon was as yet bright and unclouded; but trouble was in store, and a storm was gathering, which was destined to shake the old Hunt to its foundations. The most interesting part of Mr Ramsay's diary ends on the 4th of March 1809, for the later entries contain little more than the dates of the hunting days, the fixtures, and the number of foxes killed and run to ground. These, however, show that hunting began on the 7th of October (1809), and that up to the 6th of January following there had been thirty-six hunting days in which ten brace of foxes were killed, and fourteen and a half brace run to ground. The notes of Mr Ramsay's weight, already referred to, form a sad record of failing health, seeing that between the 5th of February 1806 and the 22nd of January 1810, two days before his death, his weight had steadily dropped from 17 st. to 12 st. 5 lb. In the frequency of

¹ This story is repeated as nearly as possible in the words of William Shore, late huntsman to the Duke of Buccleuch, to whom it was told by Williamson.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

these weighings too—they seem to have taken place at intervals of about a week—and from the fact that they were made under a variety of circumstances,—some of them with “hunting cap, whip, &c.,” others in “boots and thick——¹ before breakfast,” and others again in “flannel gown, &c.,”—may be read no little anxiety as to the story which the scales would tell, and a consciousness of the approaching end,—an event which may have been hastened by those long rides to and from hunting, and by the overtaking of a constitution not naturally of the strongest. On the 24th of January 1810,² within a few days of the last entry in his diary, and within two of the last weighing, Mr Ramsay’s death occurred. The storm had gathered and burst, and the Hunt had sustained

¹ One word illegible.

² “January 24th, at Barnton, in the 41st. year of his age, George Ramsay of Barnton, Esq.—There have been few individuals whose death has, at any time, excited a more lively and more universal feeling of regret, amongst all ranks and conditions of men, in this part of the country. With a vigorous and comprehensive understanding, Mr Ramsay combined the most amiable and endearing dispositions of mind ; while his princely fortune enabled him to give ample scope to the display of his excellent qualities, and to evince himself at once a generous friend, and a most valuable member of society. The loss which his numerous friends and relatives have sustained by his death is undoubtedly great, and will be long and deeply regretted ; nor will the blank which has been created in the community, in consequence of that afflicting event, be less severely felt and deplored. As an active, public-spirited man, and promoter of improvements of every kind, he was eminently distinguished among his contemporaries, and has probably left few equals behind him. His sudden and unexpected death, indeed, has spread a degree of gloom over the country, which we scarcely remember to have witnessed upon any similar occasion. He is succeeded in his extensive estates by an infant son.”—*Edinburgh Scots Magazine*, January 1810.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

an irreparable loss, not only of a master, but also of a liberal and steady supporter, who had spared neither money nor time in bringing it to the acme of perfection.¹

“Oh breathe not his name! the initials are enough to call tears into the eyes, and sighs from the feeling bosoms of those that still live, who knew him; in whose memories he still lives, and who followed him to an untimely grave. At the performance of these last sorrowful duties to that highly respected and valued friend and brother sportsman, those wept like children, who were ‘albeit unused to the melting mood,’ and their honest and unfeigned grief spoke more strongly the value of him they had lost, than could ‘storied urns or animated busts’” . . . “His honest blunt kindness — his unsophisticated liberality of sentiment, endeared him equally to his co-temporary friends, and to the hearts of the youthful sportsmen whom he cheered on to the chase ‘with hand and voice to point the winding way’” . . . “As an honest man, as a steady friend, as a liberal and generous sportsman — ‘take him for all in all, we shall not *soon* look upon his like again.’”²

That Mr Ramsay was a sportsman of the best type, and loved hunting for its own sake, cannot be doubted,³ and the frequent allusions to the

¹ ‘Sporting Magazine,’ May 1825.

² Ibid.

³ ‘The Scotsman’ of 15th December 1865, contains an article describing a run with Lord Wemyss’ Hounds, in which Mr Ramsay is referred to as “one of the best sportsmen Scotland ever knew.”

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

hounds which his diary contains, and the use of such expressions as "hounds remarkably steady," "instantly get hounds together," "hounds streaming along," "hounds behave uncommonly well," &c., show the lively interest which he displayed in them and their work. His strong attachment to the Hunt, and his sincere desire for its wellbeing, also, are patent in the fact that in the year of his death, and in those which followed until hunting in the country was temporarily discontinued, his representatives contributed to its funds a sum of no less than £300 annually, in consequence of which he may be said to have been the mainstay of its existence even after his death had taken place. His remains having been laid to rest in the family vault under the old church at Cramond, it behoved the members of the Hunt to consider how affairs were to be carried on; for Lord Elphinstone had not latterly taken an active part in the management. Therefore were they summoned to an extraordinary meeting at Linlithgow on Monday the 19th of February. No record of what took place on that occasion has been preserved, but it would seem that Lord Elphinstone agreed to continue to act as master, either alone or in conjunction with Mr William Murray, younger of Polmaise, until the close of the season, when he should be relieved by Mr Murray. A few days after this meeting, Mr Ramsay's hunters were sold, and Ploughboy and Restless, who had carried their owner through many a "famous run," Cato, Charmer, Star,

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

Bempton, Catchem, Honest Harry, Archer, Star-gazer and Jenny Nettles—all mentioned in his diary—besides a number of young ones, brood mares, foals, and hacks were disposed of at the hammer: and to have seen the string wending its way from King's Cramond to the place of sale—Wordsworth's Repository, Nottingham Place, Edinburgh—must have been an imposing and to his friends a sorrowful spectacle.

Although Lord Elphinstone severed his official connection with the Hunt at the end of the season of 1809, a settlement of his claims upon it was not effected until the 30th of January 1811, when Mr Boyd, the secretary and treasurer, travelled to Edinburgh for the purpose, and paid over to him the sum of £307, 18s. as the value of the horses. No mention, however, is made of the hounds, and it is possible that his lordship either formally presented them to the Hunt on his resignation, or eventually waived his claim to them. Notwithstanding his retirement he continued to subscribe to the Hunt funds up to the time of his death, although it would seem that he now began to keep hounds of his own, and engaged Christopher Scott as his whipper-in, since Scott is referred to in the 'Sporting Magazine'¹ as "a veteran, who has whipped-in to or hunted every pack in Scotland, but the Duke's, in his day, and some that are not now in force,—Lord Elphinstone's for one," and since he, Scott, is represented as whipper-in in a picture

¹ 'Sporting Magazine,' September 1835.



MR WILLIAM MURRAY, YOUNGER OF POLMAISE.

From Crayon Drawing in the possession of Mr James Murray of Polmaise.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

of Lord Elphinstone and his hounds, painted by Douglas about this time.¹ This picture, from which the portrait of Lord Elphinstone has been reproduced,² was executed in duplicate, one copy being in the possession of the present Lord Elphinstone at Carberry Tower, Mid-Lothian, and the other in that of Colonel Anstruther at Charleton, Fife.³ Lord Elphinstone died at Bath in May 1813, and was buried at the Abbey there. He was succeeded in the title by his only son.

Mr Murray, who assumed the control in 1810, was the eldest son of Mr William Murray of Touchadam and Polmaise in Stirlingshire, and was born on the 6th of July 1773. In 1799 he married Miss Anne Maxwell, daughter of Sir William Maxwell of Monreith, and went to live at Muiravonside, at that time called "The Neuk." He was a member of the Caledonian Hunt, a deputy lieutenant for the county of Stirling, and a lieutenant-colonel of yeomanry, in consequence of which he is often alluded to, and was perhaps better known, as Colonel Murray. At the end of his first season, Granger, whose services as huntsman had been retained, had been in office for four years. Having shown much good sport,

¹ Letter from the late Colonel Anstruther Thomson to the author, dated 12th November 1893. In this letter Colonel Thomson states: "I have a picture of John, 12th Lord Elphinstone, with his hounds and whipper-in. . . . The whipper-in was Kit Scott."

² *Vide* illustration, p. 40.

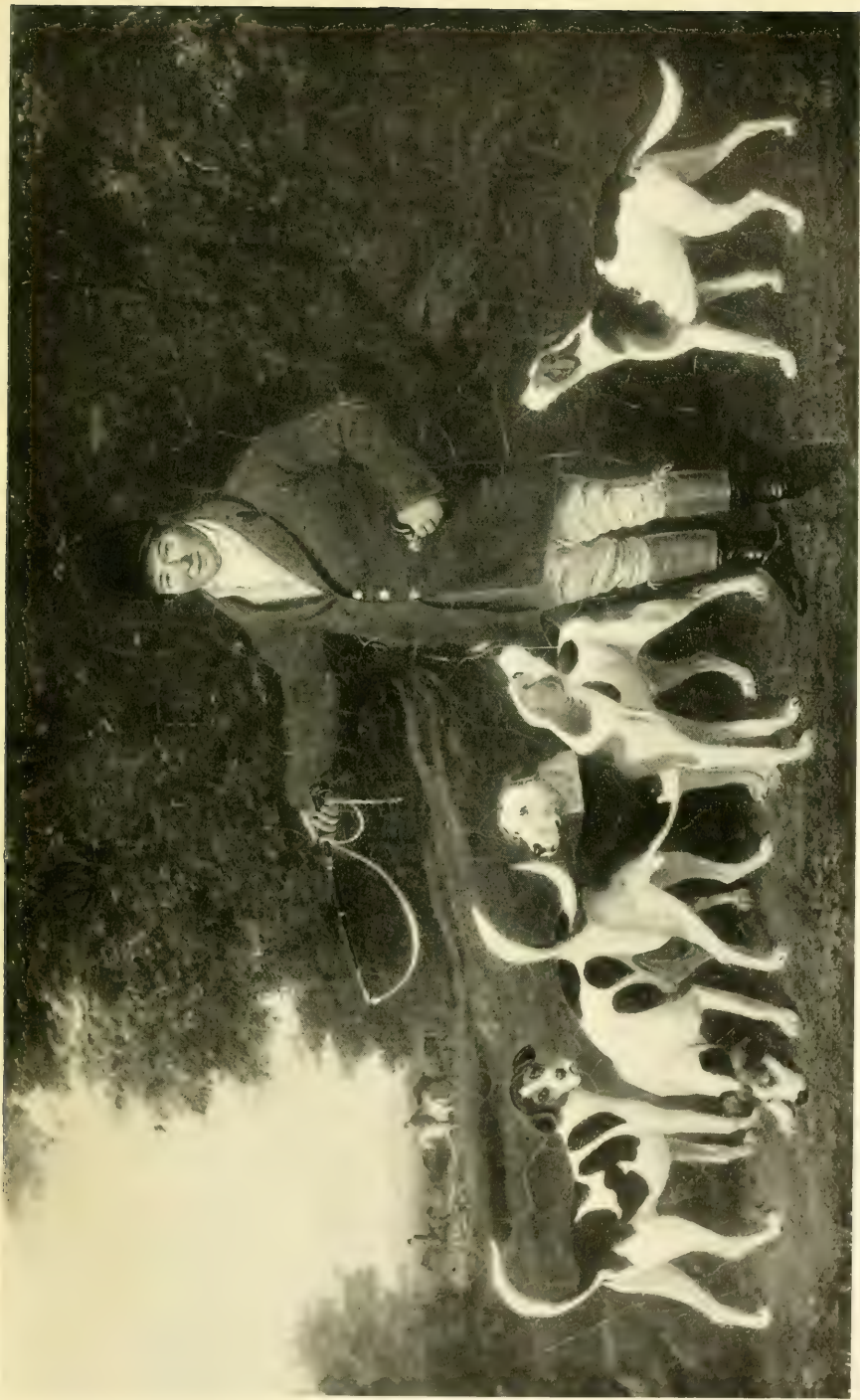
³ The picture at Charleton bears this inscription: "John, 12th Lord Elphinstone, on his Favourite Horse, and His Lordship's Whipper-in mounted on Burgundy."

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

and proved himself worthy of the trust reposed in him, he was presented with a testimonial in the shape of a silver cup, suitably inscribed ;¹ while two years later (1813) his portrait with a few of his favourite hounds—Frampton, Racer, Ferryman, Dampier, and Lifter—was painted by Douglas, the picture being afterwards engraved.

As time passed, the cost of the establishment yearly became greater, added to which various other sources of expense presented themselves. The renting of coverts was not unusual or at least unknown, while the repairing of fences damaged and the compensating of farmers and tenants for loss sustained by and trouble caused to them, were matters which, then as now, required attention. To make ends meet was therefore no easy matter, and in the year 1810, in response to an appeal, many of the members contributed additional sums, so that the total subscription received amounted to no less than £1250, and that at a time when, although rents were high, taxes were high also, and war prices prevailed. During nearly the whole of the period embraced in this chapter the Continent had been in a state of considerable commotion, and while the Hunt was pursuing the more or less even tenor of its way at home, the attention of all men was directed

¹ This cup, which is in the possession of Granger's granddaughter, Mrs Walker, Hereford Road, Harrogate, has engraved upon it a flying fox and the following inscription : "Presented by the Members of the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire Hunt to Thomas Granger, their Huntsman, in testimony of their unqualified approbation of the establishment under his management."



THOMAS GRANGER AND HOUNDS.

FRAMPTON.

KACER.

FERRYMAN.

DAMPER.

LIFTER.

From Painting in the possession of Mrs Thomas Dodds, Bathgate.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

to the Spanish Peninsula. Thither a large number of British troops had been sent in 1808 under the command of Sir Arthur Wellesley for the purpose of thwarting the movements of Napoleon, who had found a pretext for interfering in the affairs of Spain. The battles of Vimiera, Corunna, and Talavera had been fought and won, and now, in the year 1810, came a temporary cessation of hostilities, and the troops were retired within the lines of Torres Vedras. Great matters and small are not infrequently interwoven, and during this period of inactivity, a pack of British foxhounds, hunted by a British huntsman, pursued its quarry on Spanish soil. Through the sport shown by this pack and its huntsman—the famous Tom Crane, who had been appointed to the post by the “Iron Duke” himself—many days, which would otherwise have proved almost unendurable, were passed pleasantly by the soldiers who joined in the chase, hardships were made to appear less hard, and man and horse were braced and fitted for the important work yet to be accomplished.

But before the campaign had been brought to a conclusion, before the season of 1813 had drawn to a close at home, it was foreseen that it would be impossible to maintain the old Hunt much longer. Foxes had become scarce, and although this was the only reason assigned for the breaking-up of the establishment, others may be found in the death of Mr Ramsay, with whom, it is stated,¹ expired the spirit and the sinews of the Hunt,

¹ ‘Sporting Magazine,’ May 1825.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

and in the war in the Peninsula, owing to which probably many of those who might otherwise have been following the chase at home, were serving their country abroad.

The accounts end on the 31st of December 1813, when, after having been “carefully gone over and examined,” and “narrowly compared with the vouchers thereof,” they are docqueted and signed as in previous years by Mr Louis Ferrier. They close with a balance of £136, 2s. 11½d. due to the treasurer, Mr Boyd, but from an examination of them it appears that there was then at the credit of the Hunt with “the Falkirk Bank,” a sum more than sufficient to meet this deficiency. Hunting, however, seems to have been continued well into the spring of the following year, for the sale of the hounds and horses was not advertised¹ to take place until the month of April (1814).

¹ FOX-HOUNDS AND HUNTERS—To be sold.

To be disposed of at Wordsworth's Repository, Nottingham Place, Edinburgh, on Wednesday, the 20th April current, the well-known PACK of FOX-HOUNDS, belonging to the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire Hunt, together with the following STUD of HORSES, viz. :—

FAIRPLAY, a Chestnut Gelding, 8 years old, got by Statesman.

THE CAPTAIN, a Grey Gelding, 9 years old, got by Scorpion.

SWAGGER, a Black Gelding, 9 years old, got by Scorpion.

WITCHCRAFT, a Brown Mare, 9 years old, got by Star, thorough-bred.

WILDGOOSE, a Grey Mare, 7 years old, got by Cyrus, dam by Pumpkin, thorough-bred.

SILVERLOCKS, a Grey Mare, 9 years old, got by Master Robert, nearly thorough-bred.

SKIPROPE, a Grey Highland Poney, 5 years old.

N.B.—The Horses will be sold *without reserve*.

— *Vide* ‘Edinburgh Advertiser,’ Friday, April 15, 1814.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

Although the Hunt had now ceased to exist except as a club, it was destined to be resurrected at no very distant date, a circumstance which, could he have survived to see it, would doubtless have rejoiced Mr Ramsay, in whose thoughts the hunting of the country had filled so large a place. Meantime, he was not forgotten, and the members, still meeting at Linlithgow and at Stirling, did “drink in solemn silence the memory of him whose loss was a serious one for all who had the pleasure of knowing him.”¹ Meantime also—between the temporary cessation of the Hunt and its revival—the country did not long remain vacant, and after the lapse of a short interval, it was awakened by the music of a pack of fox-hounds, which at that time was, as it is at the present day, second to none in Scotland, controlled by a sportsman of renown, and guided by a huntsman of considerable celebrity.

¹ ‘Sporting Magazine,’ May 1825.

CHAPTER III.

THE INTERREGNUM.

1814-1825.

THE pack just referred to was the Lothian, now the Duke of Buccleuch's, the master Mr Robert Baird of Newbyth, grandfather of the present Sir David Baird, and the huntsman Will Williamson.

The Lothian Hunt had been established about the year 1783 by Henry, third Duke of Buccleuch, Mr Baird, Colonel Hamilton of Pentcaitland, and other gentlemen.¹ The country consisted of the greater part of Mid and East Lothian, which was hunted from kennels at Dalkeith park, and part of Berwickshire, known as the Duns country,² which appears to have been overtaken from kennels at Langton.³ In 1826, Mr Baillie of Mellerstain, who, up to that year, had hunted the remainder of Berwickshire along with the counties of Roxburgh and Selkirk and a large part of Northumberland,

¹ Papers at Dalkeith House.

² Ibid.

³ 'Sporting Magazine,' December 1828.

HISTORY OF THE L. & S. HUNT

broke up his establishment¹ and handed over his country to Mr Baird; while in the following year, Walter, fifth Duke of Buccleuch, whose guardians during his minority had subscribed largely on his behalf to the maintenance of the pack, attained majority and agreed to join Mr Baird, then the only surviving original subscriber, in the mastership—the arrangement being that upon Mr Baird's retirement, the hounds, the horses and everything connected with the establishment should become the sole property of the Duke.² Accordingly on Mr Baird's retirement or death—he did not long survive the making of the arrangement—the pack became the property of the Duke, and has ever since been known as the Duke of Buccleuch's. And it is an interesting fact that the old Lothian blood still exists, and that there are in the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire kennel to-day, partly through Darling (1895), by The Duke of Buccleuch's Trident (1892), and partly through a draft got from his Grace in 1907, descendants of hounds which were in the pack in Mr Baird's time, and which, nearly a century ago, must have crossed the old grass of Linlithgowshire with Will Williamson.

Shortly after the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire

¹ Mr Baillie's hounds and horses were sold by auction on 14th October 1826, and realised nearly £2000.—*Vide* 'Sporting Magazine,' November 1826. Some of his young hounds, however, were presented by him to the Duke of Buccleuch, and were entered in the Lothian pack.—Papers at Dalkeith House.

² Papers at Dalkeith House.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

establishment was broken up in 1814, Mr Baird asked Granger to become his huntsman in place of Collison, who had resigned ; but Granger declined, and it would seem that his term of hunt service with the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire pack was his only one. Retiring into private life, he died in the year 1846, at the age of eighty-one, and was buried at North Newbald, near Beverley, in Yorkshire. In declining Mr Baird's offer, Granger suggested the promotion of Williamson who had been whipper-in under Collison. This suggestion Mr Baird acted upon in the year 1816, and if Williamson did not actually begin his first season as huntsman, in Linlithgowshire, it must have been very shortly after its commencement that he brought his hounds to the kennels at Winchburgh,¹ for it is recorded that the first fox he ever killed was one from a fixture at Armadale toll-bar, a little to the west of Bathgate, hounds pulling him down after seven or eight miles before he could reach Callendar woods, near Falkirk.²

“ Few packs, probably, had a greater range of country than the Lothian—under the management of the late worthy and lamented Mr Baird—enjoyed at this period,—its strict limits extending from the Duke's coverts³ west of Linlithgow, to Penmanshiel wood, beyond Cockburnspath, on

¹ The Winchburgh kennels appear to have stood close to the inn there, the building which forms the eastern side of the small square in front of it having been the stable.

² ‘Field and Fern’ (South), 1865, p. 217.

³ The Duke of Hamilton's coverts,—Avon Banks, Kinneil, &c.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

the road to Berwick—a distance of nearly sixty miles by the milestones—and embracing, with a small part of Berwickshire, the whole of the three Lothians—or in other words, the entire counties of Haddington, Linlithgow, and Edinburgh. Of each of these I shall now proceed briefly to speak; and commence with that of Linlithgow, which, as a hunting country, was decidedly in every respect to be preferred to the others. In the first place it held a remarkably good scent at all seasons of the year, and consisted, for a provincial, of a very fair proportion of grass; secondly, it was a flat and very pleasant and straight-forward one to ride over; and thirdly, the foxes were flyers, and the coverts, the majority of them at least, were neither too large, nor crammed with that redundance of game that is so destructive and inimical to sport in the largest portions of Mid and East Lothian. I cannot, indeed, imagine, and certainly have never seen, anything much superior to the cream of it; and it was here that this splendid pack, with Williamson at their head, displayed themselves in their proper colours. It was indeed a delight, after witnessing the distressing and fruitless efforts of man and hound in the cold cheerless ploughs they usually came last from, to see twenty couples of these magnificent animals pressing their fox gallantly away from Binny craig, Drumshorelane moor, Duntarvie, or Riccarton, and afterwards sticking to him over a country

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

that permitted them to do so without the continual interruption of glens, bogs, hills, and pheasant preserves, which, with sown grass and young wheat, were elsewhere, in the rare event of a run, such vexatious and almost insurmountable draw-backs. It was only twice a year, however—November and the end of March—that the arrangements of the Hunt could allow this comparative Leicestershire to be visited, and then only for a fortnight at a time; but I think I am not going too far in saying, that in one of these brief periods there was generally more sport than in six weeks' hunting in either of the other counties. The kennel at Winchburgh, which the hounds during these occasions occupied, was, without exception, the very worst and most inconvenient I ever beheld; but this could neither prevent their being turned out in their usual most superior form, nor detract very materially from the pleasure with which their huntsman always looked forward to 'the fortnight in the west country.' Nor indeed was it to be wondered at that he did so; for in the words of Colonel Cook, when speaking of the late Lord Vernon's huntsman, Sam Lawley, in the Bosworth country, 'he had nothing to do but ride as fast as he could—it was all racing heads up and sterns down;' and the contrast between this and the unsatisfactory toil imposed on him in the neighbourhood of Newbattle, Dalhousie, &c., must no doubt—especially to a man so completely wrapt up in the

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

sport of his pack—have been either delightful or miserable, according to the direction in which his hounds were travelling. . . . Nothing could be much stronger than Williamson's attachment to West Lothian for the sake of his hounds. So fond indeed was he of it, that he would never allow the possibility of its being taken away from them, by the re-establishment of the old Linlithgow and Stirlingshire Hunt; which event, however, in despite of his hopes and predictions took place . . . at the beginning of 1825."¹

These brief sojourns of the Lothian Hounds in the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire country must have been looked forward to with no little pleasure by those of its residents who still cared to hunt and had at their command the means of following the chase. "Angels' visits," they might be termed in consequence of their having been so few and far between, and doubtless as such they were looked upon, and appreciated accordingly. During them it would seem that much brilliant sport was enjoyed, and in particular, in the spring of the year 1821, hounds appear to have had an unbroken succession of most capital runs.² In the spring of 1823, when again there was brilliant sport, a curious incident occurred during a burst from Kinneil wood. As a member of the field was riding over some ground covered with stunted gorse, he and his horse almost suddenly disappeared; the horse sank into the bowels of the

¹ 'Sporting Magazine,' December 1828.

² Ibid.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

earth, but his rider, being providentially thrown over his head, escaped by catching hold of some weeds. Ropes were immediately procured, and a descent was made, in order to explore the cavity, which was found to be eighteen feet perpendicular, and afterwards to extend to the depth of nearly seventy feet in a slanting direction, at the bottom of which the horse was found, alive. The country people instantly volunteered their services, and the entrance to the pit, caused by the falling of the metals in a stratum of coal, being enlarged, the horse, after eight or nine hours' labour, was brought to the surface unhurt, and travelled eighteen miles the next day.¹

Mr Baird has been alluded to as "a sportsman of renown," and in this he has probably not been rated too highly. "Mr Baird is a veteran of the old school, and, as a thorough-bred sportsman, and gentleman, is a universal favourite in this part of the world. He is upwards of sixty, and yet, among all the young bloods of the Lothian Hunt, you will see few neater turns-out than Mr Baird on his mare Bounty."² But under his rule the whole establishment was well turned out, and it would seem that no expense was spared, for the statement on the following page shows that between the years 1815 and 1825, the period during which Linlithgowshire was visited, the annual cost was never less than £1300 per annum, while, in 1818, it amounted

¹ 'Sporting Magazine,' July 1823.

² Ibid., June 1824.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

ABSTRACT OF THE EXPENSES OF THE LOTHIAN HOUNDS,¹

1816 TO 1824 INCLUSIVE.

Year.	Keeping of Horses.	Keeping of Dogs.	Purchase of Horses.	Servants and E. Stoppers.	Saddler and Farrier.	Travelling Expenses.	Taxes and Extras.	Total.
1816	£ s. d. 185 0 10	£ s. d. 226 17 6	£ s. d. 60 0 0	£ s. d. 443 5 10	£ s. d. 59 3 5	£ s. d. 43 12 11	£ s. d. 348 9 5	£ s. d. 1366 9 11
1817	352 3 6	219 15 4½	...	439 6 4	41 7 5	24 10 1	353 17 5½	1431 0 2
1818	329 0 7	201 6 0	49 10 0	409 5 11	46 13 10	24 4 4	413 12 11½	1473 13 7½
1819	376 6 9	176 4 3	...	388 5 10	42 5 10	21 6 11	367 10 4	1371 19 11
1820	305 6 7	155 14 3	15 0 0	417 5 6	54 16 2	28 13 8	333 14 5	1310 10 7
1821	342 15 8	133 17 10	103 17 8	435 9 5	53 14 3	31 2 0	281 19 4	1372 16 2
1822	333 12 7	194 8 7	59 1 0	421 16 5	59 13 1½	17 9 9	283 5 5½	1369 6 11
1823	340 5 5	205 4 2	53 11 0	426 18 1	46 7 3	26 2 11	298 5 3	1396 14 1
1824	351 11 8	226 6 0	52 10 0	411 14 2	50 19 6	18 9 6	248 3 2	1359 14 0
	2916 3 7	1739 13 11½	393 9 8	3783 7 6	455 0 9½	235 12 1	2928 17 9½	12,452 5 4½
Average for 9 years.	324 0 4½	193 5 11½	43 14 4½	420 7 6	50 11 2¼	26 3 6½	325 8 7½	1383 11 8½

¹ Papers at Dalkeith House.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

more nearly to £1500—the hounds hunting three and four days a-week.

Williamson, who afterwards became such a prominent figure in the annals of Scottish hunting, was born in August 1782.¹ His father, James Williamson, after having acted as whipper-in to the Lothian Hounds under Mr Baird and Colonel Hamilton, became head-groom to the latter, and it was then that Williamson entered the Colonel's service as message-boy. In 1802 he began his hunting life as second whipper-in to the pack with which his father had previously been connected.² Seven years later he was promoted, and after serving as first whipper-in for another period of seven years, was made huntsman.³ This position he held, first under Mr Baird, and afterwards under the Duke of Buccleuch, for the long space of forty-six seasons, his retirement not taking place until the end of the month of April 1862.⁴ "Mr William Williamson, the oldest living huntsman, bar Tom Wingfield, senior, has retired from the Duke of Buccleuch's service. This celebrated Scottish worthy was born in 1782, just one year after the late Lord Campbell, and those who were at the last Hartrigge meet, at which his Lordship was present, remember how the Lord Chancellor came out to greet Will on the lawn, and how the great

¹ Memorandum among papers at Dalkeith House.

² The 'Sporting Magazine' for June 1824 states that Williamson was educated under Granger. This appears to be erroneous.

³ Memorandum among papers at Dalkeith House.

⁴ Ibid.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

Scottish huntsman thanked the great lawyer from his saddle, for the honour he had done their mutual country by his occupation of the English woolsack. Unluckily, no photographer was by to 'fix' that memorable handshake between 'Plain Jock' and Will. Will's professional hunting sphere has known no change, although for twenty or thirty years he occasionally had a mount from his Meltonian pupils, to see a gallop with the Quorn. At thirteen he went to serve under his father, who was then groom to Colonel Hamilton, and stayed there seven years as message-boy and pad-groom to the Colonel; and in 1802 he commenced his sixty years of hunting life as second whip to the Lothian Hounds, of which Mr Baird, of Newbyth, was the master, John King the huntsman, and Frank Collison, father of Peter of the Cheshire, first whip. In seven years' time Frank got the horn, and after keeping it for seven more, retired in Williamson's favour. Will thus got his promotion eleven years before the present Duke of Buccleuch came of age, up to which time 'The Lothian' was a subscription pack,¹ and held it till April 22nd of this year, when he hung up his coat and cap after as long and as honourable a service, and under as good a master as ever fell to huntsman's lot."²

No portrait of Williamson was painted until after he had retired, but he then sat first for Sir

¹ Not in the present acceptation of the term.

² 'New Sporting Magazine,' June 1862.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

Francis Grant and afterwards for Mr Frain. Nimrod, however, sketches him as he was in the autumn of 1834, when about fifty-two years of age.

“The stature of William is below the average height of man, but his person is well turned and very well proportioned; and the exact fit of his clothes sets it off to advantage. The sit of his cap, the fall of his shoulders, and the junction of the breeches with the boots—a great point in a horse-man, as far as the eye is concerned—are all equally good; and the general cleanliness of his person, renders the *tout ensemble* complete. He has a keen, penetrating eye; carries his country in his face, as well as its full dialect on his tongue; is, as Lord Kintore says of him, ‘an astonishing bit of wire—a sort of *genus per se*—and the king of Scotch servants.’”¹

The portrait by Sir Francis Grant was painted for the Duke of Buccleuch, and some of the letters² which Sir Francis wrote to the Duke, at the time, are both interesting and amusing. The first of these mentions Will in the studio, getting rather weary of ‘sitting,’ but instantly enlivened by the arrival of a letter from the Duke.

27 SUSSEX PLACE, REGENT'S PARK, N.W.,
25th Oct. [1862].

MY DEAR DUKE,— . . . Your letter was brought into the painting room whilst Will was in the act of sitting, and was getting rather tired. But the arrival of a letter from you, put him all alive. I showed him a portion of it where

¹ ‘Northern Tour,’ 1838, p. 138.

² Among papers at Dalkeith House.



SIR FRANCIS GRANT, P.R.A.

WILL. WILLIAMSON ON SAM SLICK.

From Portrait in the possession of His Grace the Duke of Buccleuch.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

you speak of my knowledge of his character and peculiarities—Will read it “propensities.” “Ma propensities, what can his Grace mean by ma propensities,” and then he went into roars. I have only, since Will left, discovered that the word is peculiarities.

I am, I hope, getting on well with him. I think Will seems much satisfied. He says “Noo I dinna want you to mak me just as I am, but what I used to be, for, for some years back, I have only just been an apology for a Huntsman.”—I am, ever my dear Duke, yours very truly and obliged,

FRAN. GRANT.

The next letter refers to the termination of the “sittings,” and to the introduction into the picture of some of the hounds as well as the horse “Sam Slick.” It also refers to Will’s deafness.

27 SUSSEX PLACE, REGENT’S PARK, N.W.,
Nov. 2 [1862].

MY DEAR DUKE,—You will be glad to hear I am done with Will, and I think it is very successful. He seemed much pleased himself. I have arranged with him to have some hounds up to Melton the first good frost, when they can be spared. He talks of coming with them himself—he is so much interested in the picture.

He was very amusing—his anecdotes numerous. When he left me, I always got a cab to the door for him, when he invariably roared out to the cabman, “Do ye ken a place caa’ed ‘Belgrave Square.’” When the cabman assented, and succeeded in making Will hear, he said, “Weel, I want to be taken to a hoose there, No. thirty-seven.”—I am ever, my dear Duke, yours truly,

F. GRANT.

P.S.—This letter needs no answer, but I thought you would be glad to hear that we think we have been successful. He is very anxious that the likeness of *Sam Slick* may be attended to.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

The last letter of interest mentions the completion of the picture and arrangements for its despatch to Dalkeith.

27 SUSSEX PLACE, REGENT'S PARK, N.W.,
Aug. 23 [1863].

MY DEAR DUKE,—The picture will leave my house for Dalkeith on the 1st September. I only quite completed it yesterday. To-morrow or the day after, I must give it a slight varnish, and it will require all the week to be thoroughly dry. The carver and gilder has orders to call for it on Monday the 31st and send it by rail to Dalkeith on the 1st of September.

I am much obliged for your kind message. I assure you I painted the picture *con amore*, and I hope it is a good memorial of poor old Will. I wish I had painted the horse from nature. But Will was so urgent—"I maun hae my horse *Sam Slick*," that I had no option, and on the whole it is best that it should be a brown animal. . . . I am ever, my dear Duke, yours very truly, F. GRANT.

Amongst these letters there is one from Williamson to the Duke which, besides indicating his Grace's constant kindly attitude towards Will, expresses the latter's unswerving regard for his master.

ST BOSWELLS, 10 Nov. [1862].

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,—I beg to say it is with a feeling overcome by more than I can express (having received from Mr Sutherland a note intimating your Grace's never failing consideration and kindness) that I attempt to address you, so far short of what my mind, under a less impressed state, would have enabled me to do.

However, I beg to assure your Grace it is with the sincerest gratitude that I conjure up all the benefits I have received from you, but as the case is without a

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

parallel between master and servant, it masters me to enter upon it, and I can only conclude, your Grace, by re-iterating what has been a thousand times my standing toast—viz., "*The Duke, God bless him.*"—And I am, may it please your Grace, your most humble servant,

W. WILLIAMSON.

Williamson did not live many years after his portrait was painted, and dying on the 11th of February 1870, in his eighty-eighth year,¹ he was buried in the quiet churchyard of Pencaitland in the district in which he had passed many of his early days.

Perhaps the subject of Williamson has been lingered over unduly, but it should be borne in mind that, there having been no Linlithgow and Stirlingshire huntsman at this period (1814-1825), Williamson virtually stood in that relation to the country, or at least to the county of Linlithgow, and that therefore some account of him and of his career is far from being out of place in these pages. And it is worthy of mention that when the Lothian Hounds ceased to visit the country, in consequence of the revival of the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire pack in 1825, he received from those who had taken part in the sport he had shown in West Lothian a token of regard in the shape of a silver jug which is still preserved and cherished by his descendants. The following letter and verses² by the late Professor

¹ Memorandum among papers at Dalkeith House.

² In the possession of Miss Williamson, Galashiels.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

James Miller,¹ however, will form a fitting conclusion to what has been said in regard to this famous Scottish huntsman:—

DEAR WILLIAMSON,—I have been so infernally busy with the getting up of a dinner to your friend Mr —— (where by the bye, I expected to have seen *you*) that I have not had time to redeem my pledge anent my promise to send you the accompanying palaver. But coming home, to-day, I found that you had been here, and not looking very *well pleased*. So I hasten to say *peccavi* and make amends. Here it is in all its imperfections. If it can help to convince you that nothing can be nearer my warmest wish than to further in any way in my power your wishes or interests, I am amply repaid for the pains of delivery that authors are subjected to.—Ever yours faithfully,

JAS. MILLER.

“WILL O’ THE WISP.”

(Air—“The Boys of Kilkenny.”)

Oh long may Will stick to his “Pension and Place,”
For tho’ nearly three-score—still “full score” is his pace.
He can ride like the Devil—talk or write like the *Praist*;
And he’s aisy and kind both to man and to *Baist*.
Oh in troth he’s a broth of a boy to be sure.

Tho’ he doats on his *pack*, he’s no pedlar or cheat,
For no wares does he sport but “ware grass” or “ware wheat.”
Good *covers* he covets, but *throws off* all disguise;
All that’s *hollow* in him are his *View hollo* cries.
Oh in troth, &c.

¹ Professor of Surgery, Edinburgh University, 1842.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

As a Huntsman, who's like him, for head and for heel,
As sharp as a razor, true and hard as the steel ;
 With both science and bottom, pluck, talent, and fun,
And the rank of *full major*—being *now twenty-one*.
 Oh in troth, &c.

As a man and a friend he is "*warranted sound*,"
If a better you'd seek, let it be underground.
 Staunch, sterling, and steady,—tough, trusty, and true,
 He's beloved and respected by Noble Buccleuch.
 Oh in troth, &c.

For title and rank due respect he maintains ;
In return their esteem, and their friendship obtains.
 All follow him hard over turf, hill, and heath,
 And none stick so close as the *gallant Newbyth*.
 Oh in troth, &c.

More power to his elbow ! More success then to Will !
May he equal Saint Patrick in the varmint he'll kill,
 Hounds healthy and fleet,—horse and men fast and sound ;
 And long may it be before *he's* "run to ground."
 For in troth, &c.

"THE DUSTY MILLER."

While the Lothian Hounds, under Mr Baird, were periodically hunting the Linlithgowshire side of the country, during the interregnum, the R.A.L.D.S. Hounds, under Captain, afterwards Sir, David Baird, Mr Baird's son, visited the Stirlingshire district occasionally, and, judging from the following account of what appears to have been a long and fine run, the confines of West Lothian also. This Hunt was so styled from the initial letters of the counties hunted by it, namely—

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

Renfrew, Ayr, Lanark, Dumbarton or Dumfries,—probably the former—and Stirling. The hounds had three kennels, one of which was situated at the mouth of the Doon in Ayrshire, another at Cathcart near Glasgow, and the third at Motherwell. Captain Baird had undertaken the management of the pack in the year 1822, but after acting as master for two seasons, retired in favour of Mr James Oswald of Shieldhall, who in turn gave place to Lord Kelburne in 1826. When Captain Baird took the hounds, it would seem that they were not in the best possible form, but through the care and attention which he bestowed on them during his mastership, a great improvement was effected.¹ This is borne out by the account of the run already referred to.

“On Saturday, the 10th April [1824], Captain Baird’s Hounds had a fine day’s sport. The place of meeting was Armadale toll-bar, on the Glasgow road, where they immediately found a fine fox, with which they went away at a killing pace, towards the village of Bathgate, upon nearing which, he turned to the left, through Mr Marjoribanks’, of Marjoribanks, grounds, for Wallhouse craig, where being headed, he gallantly faced the Bathgate hills, and skirting the numerous lime quarries, disdained all the earths. Here he turned short to the left, and crossing Hilderston hill, he ran through Witch-craig wood, the west parks of B’ormie, and continuing in a north direction as far

¹ ‘Sporting Magazine,’ January 1825.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

as the bottom of Cockleroi, he turned to the right, and running over the fine grass country of B'ormie, he never varied a point till he reached Riccarton wood,¹ where he was so closely pressed by the gallant pack, that he was obliged once more to take the open country. He broke away toward the Binny craig, but leaving it to his right, he made for the badger earths² where he was twice viewed, dead beat, and here he would have been killed, had the scent at all served on the ploughed land. Getting away again, he crossed the Linlithgow road, ran through the Champfleurie grounds as far as the Union canal; here he turned round and came back to Champfleurie, where he went to ground in a drain at the bottom of the garden,—thus completing one of the finest runs ever seen with hounds,—the extent of the country, point-blank, not being less than 14 miles, and, taking the run, certainly not less than 20 miles. Never did hounds do their duty better: it was a fine finish to the season. Too much praise cannot be given to Captain Baird for having in so short a time brought his hounds to so high a state of perfection.”³

Although the Lothian and R.A.L.D.S. packs had to some extent filled the place of the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire during the seasons which followed the sale of the hounds in 1814, there had evidently existed in the country, throughout this period, a

¹ Longmuir covert.

² On Nancy's hill.

³ 'Annals of Sporting and Fancy Gazette,' May 1824.

HISTORY OF THE L. & S. HUNT

feeling of regret that the old Hunt had died down, and a sort of smouldering desire for its revival, requiring but little to kindle it into life. How the embers of this desire, which, having been stirred and fanned into a glow by the good sport shown in the visits of the above-mentioned packs, suddenly leaped into flame with the coming of the new year of 1825, will be described in the pages which immediately follow.

CHAPTER IV.

THE THREE LAIRDS. THE HUNT CLUB.

1825-1830.

How unfortunate it is that the hounds ever came to be sold. The good sport which the Lothian and R.A.L.D.S. packs have shown, instead of satisfying, has strengthened, the desire of those now hunting, and has brought home to the country most forcibly the want of hounds of its own. Many of the members have for some time past wished for, and even contemplated, a revival of the old Hunt, and it now only remains that some one should take the initiative in order to bring this about!

Some thoughts such as these must have passed through the minds of Mr Johnston and Mr Gillon during the summer of 1824. Probably upon many different occasions they had discussed the feasibility of renewing the establishment, weighed all the *pros* and *cons*, summed up those whom they knew would support such a movement, as well as those whom they considered would be likely

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

to do so, and finally decided that they themselves would take the first steps towards this end. Thus resolved, they must have eagerly watched and waited for a chance of securing any suitable hounds which might be for sale, and when, a little later, it became known that the Earl of Kintore desired to dispose of the pack which he then had in Kincardineshire, gladly availed themselves of the opportunity, and concluded a bargain for its purchase. No doubt the news of this purchase spread rapidly through the country, but the fact was not formally made known until the 17th of January (1825), when the members of the Hunt met at Linlithgow for the express purpose of considering the situation. Then Mr Johnston reported what he and Mr Gillon had done, and offered to the Hunt the hounds which they had purchased at the price they had paid for them; and although this offer was not accepted, it was resolved that the hunting establishment should be renewed, and that the support of the noblemen and gentlemen of the district should be sought.¹ The minutes of this meeting bear that those present "earnestly recommend to the members at large, to enable these gentlemen [Mr Johnston and Mr Gillon] to resume and continue the establishment by affording them their countenance and support, and to enter into a liberal subscription for that purpose."²

¹ Minute-Book in the custody of Messrs Glen & Henderson, Linlithgow.

² Ibid.



MR WILLIAM DOWNE GILLON OF WALLHOUSE,

From Portrait in the possession of Mrs. C. G. Gillon.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

The list of subscribers¹ given on the following page is interesting not only on account of the names which it contains, but also as showing the sums agreed to be contributed.

'The Sporting Magazine' alludes to Mr Johnston and Mr Gillon as "celebrated sportsmen,"² and although the adjective used was taken exception to,³ it will be conceded that their action in endeavouring to bring about a renewal of the establishment was a most sportsman-like one. And it is probable that no better arrangement than the association of these gentlemen in the management could well have been devised, since each, being an owner of property lying within the Hunt's territory, had that interest in the country as well as in the Hunt which forms a connecting link between the two, and tends to promote good feeling between those who cultivate and those who ride over the land. Mr Johnston was proprietor of the estate of Straiton in Mid-Lothian, as well as of the lands of Champfleurie in Linlithgowshire, while Mr Gillon had inherited the property of Wallhouse, which had then been in the possession of his family for between two and three hundred years. The pack which they had purchased had hunted Forfarshire and Kincardineshire in the autumn of 1824. It consisted of about thirty couples of hounds, and included several of those which had been drawn

¹ List of subscribers among Hunt papers in the custody of Messrs Glen & Henderson, Linlithgow.

² 'Sporting Magazine,' February 1825.

³ Ibid., May 1825.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PACK OF
FOX-HOUNDS FOR HUNTING THE COUNTIES OF LINLITHGOW
& STIRLING, COMMENCING AS AT 1ST JANUARY 1825, UNDER
THE JOINT MANAGEMENT OF JAMES JOHNSTON, ESQ^r. OF
STRAITON, & WILLIAM D. GILLON, ESQ^r. OF WALLHOUSE,
WITH THEIR SEVERAL SUBSCRIPTIONS ANNEXED.

SUBSCRIBERS' NAMES.	SUMS SUBSCRIBED.
His Grace, the Duke of Hamilton & Brandon . . .	£40 0 0
His Grace, the Duke of Montrose	50 0 0
The Most Noble The Marquis of Graham	20 0 0
The Right Honourable the Earl of Hopetoun	300 0 0
The Right Honourable the Earl of Rosebery	100 0 0
The Right Honourable Lord Abercromby	25 0 0
The Honourable Capt. Abercromby, M.P.	10 10 0
The Honourable Sir Alexander Hope of Waughton, M.P.	21 0 0
Sir James Dalyell, Baronet of Binns	10 10 0
Sir William Baillie, Baronet of Polkemmet	50 0 0
Sir Gilbert Stirling, Baronet of Larbert	20 0 0
Compte de Flahault	10 10 0
Michael Bruce, Esq ^r ., Yr. of Stenhouse	25 0 0
Alexander Macleod, Esq ^r ., of Muiravonside	10 10 0
James Inglis, Esq ^r ., Yr. of Middleton	10 10 0
Thomas Graham Stirling, Esq ^r ., of Airth	10 10 0
C. L. Cumming Bruce, Esq ^r ., of Kinnaird	10 10 0
Robert Stein, Esq ^r ., of Kilbagie	10 10 0
H. Home Drummond, Esq ^r ., of Blairdrummond, M.P.	25 0 0
William Murray, Esq ^r ., of Polmaise	25 0 0
William Gibson Craig, Esq ^r ., Yr. of Riccarton	15 0 0
Francis Simpson, Esq ^r ., of Plean	10 10 0
James Hart, Esq ^r ., of Drumcrosshall	10 10 0
Gabriel Hamilton Dundas, Esq ^r ., of Duddingston	30 0 0
James J. Hope Vere, Esq ^r ., of Craigiehall	31 10 0
H. Fletcher Campbell, Esq ^r ., of Boquhan	50 0 0
B. Dunmore Napier, Esq ^r ., of Ballikrain	30 0 0
James Dennistoun, Esq ^r ., of Barbacklaw	10 10 0
Major Norman Shairp, Yr. of Houstoun	10 10 0
	<hr/>
	£983 10 0

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

by Lord Kintore on the division of the united Fife and Forfarshire packs in or about the year 1823, while the remainder was composed chiefly of drafts procured from different well-known kennels in England.¹ The huntsman engaged was George Knight, who at this time was about thirty-seven years of age, and was living at Dalkeith. He either then was, or had been, whipper-in to the Lothian Hounds² under Williamson, and therefore must have been acquainted to some extent with the country which he was about to hunt. He seems to have come originally from Gloucestershire or Monmouthshire, and to have been in the service, first, of Captain Davidson of Cantray, with whom he came to Scotland, then of Mr Forbes of Culloden, and, finally, before commencing his hunting career, of the Duke of Gordon, to whom he acted as padgroom or second horseman. Shortly after his engagement he travelled to Inglismaldie in Kincardineshire, and early in February brought down the pack to the kennels at Winchburgh which had previously been occupied by the Lothian Hounds

¹ "It must be well known to most masters of fox-hounds, that the Earl of Kintore (from whom the hounds were bought by the present manager, Mr Johnston) procured the best drafts England could produce as well as old hounds from different quarters, besides taking ten or twelve couples of the best hunting hounds (as he had a right to do) from the Fife or Forfar pack. His Lordship commenced hunting in the autumn of 1824," . . . "and the pack having had their fair share of sport, and being well blooded early in the season, about Christmas, came to their present country."—*Vide* 'Sporting Magazine,' March 1828, and 'Notitia Venatica,' by R. T. Vyner, 1842, the appendix to which includes Lord Kintore's List for 1824.

² 'Sporting Magazine,' July 1825.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

when they visited the country. The services of two whippers-in¹ were secured, horses were purchased, and before the middle of the month all was in readiness for taking the field. This was effected on Monday, the 14th, when, meeting at Linlithgow Bridge, hounds found a fox at Tod's mill, on the banks of the Avon, and killed him near Hopetoun House.

"On Monday, Feb. 14, the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire Fox-hounds met for the first time since the renewal of the hunting establishment, under the management of those celebrated sportsmen, James Johnston, Esq., of Straiton, and William Downe Gillon, Esq., of Wallhouse, at Linlithgow Bridge. They proceeded to draw the Duke of Hamilton's covert on the banks of the Avon, and immediately unkennelled a fine dog fox. Notwithstanding the great number of equestrians as well as pedestrians who had turned out to see the hounds, reynard broke away at once in the most gallant style, close by the crowd, making for Kinneil wood, near which the hounds were over-rode in a lane, and came to a short check. The fox ran by Bonhard, Carriden, Stacks, and Blackness Castle, passing in his way the beautiful grounds of Sir James Dalyell of Binns, Baronet, and took to ground in a drain in a wood of the Earl of Hopetoun near to Hopetoun

¹ It would seem that one of these was James Raw who came from Yorkshire, and is said to have died at Linlithgow of typhus or typhoid fever.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

House, close by the great head of earths for which he was making. He was then dug out in an exhausted state and soon killed. The staunchness of the hounds, which were lately purchased from that out-and-out sportsman, the Earl of Kintore, and the conduct in the field of George Knight, the new huntsman, were the theme of universal admiration, and a more propitious commencement of this young pack could not have been wished for. The time occupied in the run was fully an hour, and the distance from point to point, nine or ten miles. The distance run over must have been much greater. After the whoo-whoop the field of sportsmen separated, much gratified. The Hunt Club assembled in the evening at Whitten's Inn, Linlithgow, where they entertained a party of their friends at dinner."¹

To none could this day's work have been more gratifying than to Knight who, since his performance in the field had created a favourable impression, probably began to entertain that feeling of confidence in himself without which a huntsman will almost certainly fail to show sport. Mr Johnston and Mr Gillon, also, could not but have been well satisfied with their opening day, for the manner in which the hounds had acquitted themselves must have proved to them, almost beyond a doubt, that the purchase which they had made was a sound one; and it may therefore be imagined that they joined the dinner-party which took

¹ 'Sporting Magazine,' February 1825.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

place at Linlithgow that evening in a more than usually pleasant frame of mind.¹ There were also present on that occasion Sir William Baillie of Polkemmet, Sir James Dalrymple of the Binns, Mr C. S. Norvell of Boghall, Mr James S. Inglis of Middleton, the Earl of Caithness, Major Moray of Abercairney, Mr Grant of Kilgraston, Mr Maconochie, Sheriff-Depute of Orkney, brother of Lord Meadowbank, and Mr Keith Dick.²

The season ended about the middle of April, two months after the fixture at Linlithgow Bridge. In the following month of August the hounds were moved from Winchburgh to new kennels³ which had been built on a field belonging to Mr Johnston near the Bonnytoun entry to Linlithgow; while, about the same time, the old West Port House,⁴ belonging to Mr Hamilton of Cathlaw, was leased by the Hunt,⁵ and occupied by Knight,

¹ Mrs Whitten's Inn, at which the dinner-party referred to was given, stood where the stables of the Star and Garter Hotel now are.

² Minute - Book in the custody of Messrs Glen & Henderson, Linlithgow.

³ The Bonnytoun kennels, although diverted from their original purpose, still stand. They are situated in the angle formed by the junction of the roads leading from Carriden and from Burghmuir to Linlithgow.

⁴ The West Port House is situated on the south side of the main street in Linlithgow, a little to the east of the point from which the road to Bo'ness branches off.

⁵ At a meeting held on 14th February 1825, Mr Boyd, the secretary and treasurer, was authorised "to take a Lease for behoof of the Hunt, of that house, stabling, and garden, at the West Port of Linlithgow, occupied by Mr Williams, for a period of from one to five years, at a rent not exceeding £30 Stg. p. annum."—Minute - Book in the custody of Messrs Glen & Henderson, Linlithgow.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

the Hunt horses being stabled in the yard adjoining.

The country hunted embraced, in addition to the counties of Linlithgow and Stirling, the west of Fife district and a part of Dumfriesshire, which included or consisted of Mr Hope-Johnstone's property in Annandale. The whole of this area was hunted from the kennels at Bonnytown, with the exception of the western part of Stirlingshire, which was overtaken from temporary quarters in the county town, and the west of Fife and Dumfriesshire districts, which were hunted from Torryburn and Lochmaben respectively. In the broken season of 1824 Knight killed seven and a half brace of foxes, in his first whole season twenty-eight brace, and in the succeeding one thirty brace, the hounds hunting three days a-week.

Although Mr Johnston and Mr Gillon were joint-masters, the former took the chief charge, and when he was in the field the latter did not interfere. Neither of them carried a hunting horn, but both wore the white collar in virtue of their office. After hunting the country for a period of three years over and above the broken season of 1824, they tendered their resignation, and the mastership was offered to Major Norman Shairp, younger of Houstoun.¹ He, however, to the great disappointment of his friends and brother sportsmen, declined the honour,² and the manage-

¹ 'Sporting Magazine,' April 1828.

² Ibid.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

ment was intrusted to Mr William Hay of Duns Castle.¹

“Who comes next? A master of fox-hounds should take the precedence of all others when *Nimrod* writes, and therefore I introduce to my readers who may not be acquainted with him, a gentleman known in Warwickshire—which county he hunted three seasons in first-rate style—as Mr Hay, but in Scotland as ‘Willie Hay’ of Duns Castle; and if I could but persuade myself to believe—with a little addition to it—in the doctrine of metempsychosis, or exchange of souls, I should boldly assert that ‘*Mr* Hay’ in England, and ‘*Willie* Hay’ in Scotland, could not be the same man. But in what consists the fancied transfiguration? Why, the character of Mr Hay in Warwickshire—and I appeal to my brother sportsmen there, if such it was not—was that of a good sportsman, a well-bred gentleman, an agreeable companion; and that was all. Perhaps he acted the part of the cautious hound on a ticklish scenting day, and on fresh ground, and left it to others to throw their tongues on the hazard; but this I can say, on my own experience of this highly respected gentleman on both sides of the Tweed, that Willie Hay north of *the* river, is worth a dozen Mr Hays south of it. That in one he was merely the agreeable companion; on the other he is the life and soul of every party he is in;—the best teller of a story, with the best stock of

¹ ‘Sporting Magazine,’ July 1828.



SIR FRANCIS GRANT, P.R.A.
REV. JOHN THOMSON.

MR WILLIAM HAY OF DUNS CASTLE.

From Painting in the possession of Mr F. S. Hay of Duns Castle.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

anecdotes, and with as much of the original character of his country about him, as any man I am acquainted with. That he is a horseman of the first order, I need not trouble myself to assert.”¹

Mr Hay, whose portrait has been thus drawn by Nimrod, was the eldest son of Mr Robert Hay of Duns Castle in Berwickshire, and of Drumelzier in Peeblesshire, his family being a branch of the Hays, Marquesses of Tweeddale. He was born on the 29th of February 1788, succeeded his father on the 21st of August 1807, and was elected a member of the Caledonian Hunt on the 13th of January 1829. Besides having previously hunted a part of Berwickshire,² he had been master of the Holderness Hounds for one season (1821),³ and of the Warwickshire for two (1825 and 1826).⁴ He had, therefore, had considerable experience as a master of hounds, and was at this time well known as a good sportsman both in England and Scotland. While master of the Warwickshire, he appears to have acquired through his kennel-huntsman, Jack Wood, previously with the Pytchley during the mastership of Lord Althorp, some Pytchley blood. This, it would seem, he eventually brought with him from Warwickshire to Scotland;⁵ and it is possible that the introduction of it into the Lin-

¹ Nimrod's 'Northern Tour,' 1838, p. 46.

² There are preserved at Duns Castle some old hunt buttons used by Mr Hay, on which are embossed the letters D.C.H., *i.e.*, presumably, Duns Castle Hunt.

³ 'Sporting Magazine,' April 1821 and February 1822.

⁴ *Ibid.*, November 1825 and January 1827. ⁵ *Ibid.*, August 1839.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

lithgow and Stirlingshire kennel may have tended to effect the improvement in the pack which is said to have taken place during his mastership.¹

In conjunction with the home country, which seems to have been worked from kennels at Kettleston near Linlithgow, Mr Hay hunted from Duns Castle, a considerable part of Berwickshire, at that time placed at his disposal by the Duke of Buccleuch. This embraced, in addition to the Duns country, the coverts of Paxton, Milne-Graden, Fogo muir, and Marchmont,—the boundary line between these and the Duke's own country being Greenlaw Dean and the Greenlaw road as far as Orange Lane, and the north and east limits of the Castlelaw and Lennel estates.² The home country and the Berwickshire district appear to have been hunted alternately, each for a month or so at a time, and both seem to have afforded good sport, although about this period the former suffered a serious loss through the cutting down and draining of one of its best coverts. This, the great wood of Drumshoreland,³ from which many good runs had taken place during the days of Lord Elphinstone and Mr George Ramsay, consequently now failed to hold a fox, and it is probable that the occurrence of an event so unusual may have suggested to the twelfth Earl of Buchan the idea of giving to his excellent and amusing

¹ 'Sporting Magazine,' April 1831.

² Papers at Dalkeith House.

³ The name is spelt in various ways, Drumshoreland and Drumshorelane being perhaps the most common.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

verses the title of "The Blank Day at Drumshorelane." In after years, during the reign of Mr W. R. Ramsay, when the young wood planted in place of the old had grown, it produced foxes which could travel, and the covert accordingly regained much, if not all, of its former high reputation. At the present day Drumshoreland is a great wood once more, and although it is seldom drawn in vain, it is now almost impossible, in consequence of its surroundings and bad scenting properties, for hounds to force foxes from it as they did in the past.

THE BLANK DAY AT DRUMSHORELANE.

1827.

At what *once* was Drumshorelane, by ten o' the clocks,
I met the old Lithgows a-searching a fox;
But there *disappointment* "was all that we found,"
Not a tod could we view from that *once* famous ground.

Hark away! hark away!
Each dog has his day;
The Lithgowshire Fox-hounds
For ever, I say!

Not a few were the murmurs, as I understood,
'Gainst the axe that had levelled this once famous wood:
Which *foe to the sport*, sans remorse, did efface,
To tods¹ such a covert, the county such grace.

Hark away! &c.

The field was select, but the scarlets were few;
At their head rode bold Norman,² the trusty and true;
"Drumshorelane has failed us," he cried, "but, by G-d,
"The cover of Houstoun shall give us a tod."

Hark away! &c.

¹ Tod, Scotch for fox.

² Major Norman Shairp, yr. of Houstoun.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

Then off in despair to old Houstoun we rode,
Of brawny-legged Tommy ¹ (*a*), the tall white abode ;
Of a rattling good fox the ne'er failing resort,
Thro' the care of his boy, who's an eye to the sport.
Hark away ! &c.

And true was his word ; for in five minutes' space,
Comes *Straiton* ² along at a thundering pace ;
“Gone away ! gone away !” shouts the yellow-haired Laird,
Determined that day to outride Davy Baird.
Hark away ! &c.

Knee-deep in the mud, sometimes out, sometimes in,
See Norman tear past, what a fuss he is in !
What can be the reason ? O Lord ! now I ha'e't,
The field has forgot for *Lord Hopetoun* to wait (*b*).
Hark away ! &c.

But thanks to the freedom of famed British land,
Once *Reynard* has broken, who *dares* to command ?
The lord and the peasant are then all alike ;
Whoe'er saw *precedence* in jumping a dike ?
Hark away ! &c.

Annoy'd at the fuss which bold Norman had made,
The gruff Lord-L—t—t, disdaining parade,
Put spurs to his gelding, nor tenders one nod ;
All he thinks of's the run, and a view of the tod.
Hark away ! &c.

The gay laird of Wallhouse ³ see streaking along,
On Sunrise (*c*) awaking to join the gay throng ;
Whilst his friend Jemmy Stein, by his side you may see,
On his bay Irish cocktail, as brisk as a bee.
Hark away ! &c.

(*a*) The *last* of the Lairds, even on his *last* legs, never was a “has been” as to brawn.

(*b*) On this day the Lord-L—t—t was waited for by “*particular desire*.”

(*c*) Sunrise was the name of Wallhouse's favourite nag, hence the pun.

¹ Mr Thomas Shairp of Houstoun.

² Mr Johnston of Straiton.

³ Mr Gillon of Wallhouse.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

To Livingstone covert the fox bends his course ;
Well *in* is each hound, and well blown is each horse ;
Whilst tooting and blawing, a mile out of sight,
But slowly and surely, comes fat Geordie Knight.¹

Hark away ! &c.

On his black nag, see Erskine,² a mile in the rear,
With none alongside him his sad heart to cheer ;
Though none less *presumptuous* or quiet can be,
I am sorry to say, still *presumptive* is he.

Hark away ! &c.

A sportsman of *note*, in green collar behold,
Sticking close to the road, a M'Adamite bold ;
And looking as though he said, " Catch me who can " ;
Yet though *Adam's*³ (*a*) his name, here he's never first man.

Hark away ! &c.

Who's he in white topper, on flea-bitten grey,
With hobby-like canter slow streaming away ?
His name I forget : but the ladies all own
He's the prettiest, genteelest young man about town.

Hark away ! &c.

Alive to the adage we have read long ago,
Of " Train up a child in the way he should go,"
Scrambling, tumbling, and jumping o'er all sorts of fence,
See the scions of Buchan and Houstoun advance.

Hark away ! &c.

Three raw gaunt Goliaths are thund'ring this way,
That they won't ride us down I most fervently pray ;
Half gemmen, half dealers, all sons of the clod,
Not so long as their daddy, by near half a rod.

Hark away, &c.

(*a*) *Adam*. Addicted to splashing his comrades on the *highway*.

¹ George Knight, huntsman.

² Afterwards Earl of Buchan, the author of these verses.

³ Mr Adam Hay.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

The Laird of Drumcross,¹ sure, I must not forget,
Neat mounted on Franco, his darling and pet ;
But he dines just at *three*, and whatever the fun,
He's home by that hour, lest the mutton's o'erdone.
Hark away ! &c.

And now I have given you, as near as I know,
A list of who *cannot*, and those who *can* go ;
Now then, even I, must my garron bestride,
Lest the Lithgow and Stirlingshire say I can't ride.
Hark away ! &c.

Whilst each heart with the hope of the *brush* now beats high,
And echo resounds with the soul-cheering cry,
Old reynard, awake to the chance called the *main*,
Puts an end to our hopes, and pops into a drain (*a*).
Hark away ! &c.

Ah me ! that improvement should *prove* such a curse
To the joys of the chase, though so good for the purse ;
Would to goodness the King issued forth his command,
For the good of the sport, against *draining* the land.
Hark away, &c.

And now, ere I draw this grand run to a close,
Ere I take to my grubbing and then to my doze,
Let me wish to the Lithgow and Stirlingshire hounds,
The best of good sport, without measure or bounds ;
Hark away ! &c.

May the Laird of Duns Castle² prove steady and true,
And give such good sport as to sportsmen is due ;
And when at *Drumshorelane* they muster again,
May they not draw it *blank*, nor fall *into a drain*.
Hark away ! &c.³

(*a*) Whenever a tod was *lost*, he had *always* gone into a *drain*.

¹ Mr James Hart of Drumcross.

² Mr Hay of Duns Castle.

³ A similar version, without names, appeared in the 'Sporting Magazine,' August 1828.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

Mr Hay, who hunted the hounds himself,¹ showed capital sport, and in his first season there were several brilliant runs—one in particular from Ravelrig, skirting the Pentland hills, being much talked of. Unfortunately almost no details concerning it are recorded, but it would seem that on that occasion hounds distanced their followers, and that no one was actually with them when they ran into their fox. Mr W. R. Ramsay of Barnton, Mr Home, Berwickshire, Captain Christie, Mr M'Bean and Mr Gillon, however, were not far off at the finish, while, amongst others, the Messrs Williamson of Lixmount, Mr Hay, Major Shairp, Mr Home, Linhouse, and Colonel Holmes and Mr Dyson from Piershill Barracks, came up shortly afterwards.² In his second season, after some excellent runs in the Duns country, a long and good hunt took place on the 3rd of November (1829) from a fixture at Linlithgow Bridge. Hounds found twice in Kinneil wood, but otherways the morning proved uneventful, and when, from Bowden, a small but good fox broke covert, the best scenting part of the day was over. The first burst was sharp, but after about five miles had been traversed, hounds came to a check,—so long that half the field departed; and perhaps to this circumstance may have been due the rest and best of the run. Although the afternoon was cold and most unfavourable for scent, it afforded

¹ 'Sporting Magazine,' April 1831.

² Ibid., February 1829.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

an excellent opportunity of evincing the nose, patience, and bottom of the hounds, and the zeal and determination of the master. For the last five or six miles hounds literally hunted by *inches*, for the scent lay dead cold in some fields, and difficult in others; but eventually, after a stiff and most sporting run, they pulled down their fox on the banks of the dell of Muiravonside. The field, which then consisted of Major Shairp, Mr Forbes of Callendar, his friend Mr Gatacre, Mr P. Stewart, Captain Cheyne and two strangers, turned for home, resolved, as the 'Sporting Magazine' expresses it, to "make hay while the sun shines," or, in other words, to hunt with Mr Hay's hounds as often as possible.¹ In this run, a puppy at walk, hearing the cry, joined in the chase, was well with the pack during the last part of it, and at the finish had the head of the fox in his mouth.²

When, in 1830, Mr Hay resigned his mastership,—one all too short in so far as the country was concerned,—Mr W. R. Ramsay of Barnton, son of Mr George Ramsay, was elected to fill his place. During the two years in which Mr Hay had been master, Mr Ramsay had kept stag-hounds at Golfhall or at Barnton, and although his doing so was not at all popular and was the means of causing some friction, all unpleasantness seems to have passed away before he took over the control.³ He engaged as hunts-

¹ Sporting Magazine, February 1830.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

man, Christopher Scott, previously whipper-in under Granger during part of his father's mastership; and to him, Knight, who seems to have acted as kennel-huntsman at Duns Castle throughout Mr Hay's term of office, handed over thirty-three and a half couples of hounds.¹

Whether Mr Ramsay, and before him Mr Hay, was the owner of the pack, it is difficult to determine, for the information on the point is far from satisfactory. It seems plain that the hounds were sold when Mr Johnston and Mr Gillon resigned their mastership in 1828, but it is not clear into whose possession they passed. The writer of a letter which appeared in the 'Sporting Magazine'² at the time states, "I understand that the subscribers have purchased the hounds," while Knight, in a formal declaration³ which he made in 1866 in regard to several matters relating to the Hunt, affirms that "Lord Hopetoun, in 1828, bought the hounds from Mr Johnston for three hundred pounds or guineas. I think the hounds and horses had been paid for by Mr Johnston—at least all the horses that were unsold were left at Champfleurie when I went to Duns Castle. This, however, may have been by private arrangement between Mr Johnston and Mr Gillon. I understand that Lord Hopetoun offered the

¹ Declaration by George Knight: *Vide* Appendix IV.

² 'Sporting Magazine,' April 1828.

³ Declaration by George Knight, *supra*.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

hounds as a gift to the gentlemen of the counties of Linlithgow and Stirling, but I cannot say anything about whether this was carried out, or whether his Lordship's subscription was suspended till he was repaid." So far there is nothing which precludes the possibility of Mr Hay, and after him Mr Ramsay, having become the owner of the pack, but Knight continues, "I don't think that Mr Ramsay paid anything for the hounds, I never heard that he did"; and while thus supporting the view that Mr Ramsay, at least, was not owner of the pack, he weakens the effect of his statement by adding, "I always understood that he [Mr Ramsay] got them as the county property in the same way as Mr Johnston, Mr Gillon¹ and Mr Hay had done before him." Certain letters² which passed between Mr Hay and other gentlemen towards the end of his mastership, allude to his being relieved of "the hounds, horses, &c.," but they really throw no light on the subject, and perhaps the most reliable information is that derived from William Shore, the Duke of Buccleuch's late huntsman, who asserts³ that Mr Ramsay purchased the hounds from Mr Hay, and in consequence of having paid the price to him instead of to his trustee,⁴ was for some time in danger of having

¹ Mr Johnston and Mr Gillon, or Mr Johnston, had acquired the hounds *by purchase*. *Vide* p. 88.

² Among papers at Duns Castle.

³ Letters to the author, of various dates.

⁴ Mr Hay's affairs had become involved about this period.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

to repeat the payment. Although the point is an interesting one, it is not of importance, except in so far as it bears upon the question, which arose at a later period, as to whether or not the hounds were the private property of Mr Ramsay's representatives,—a matter which will be referred to at the proper time.¹

On leaving Mr Hay's service, Knight entered that of Mr Meiklam of Carnbroe in Lanarkshire, and afterwards became kennel-huntsman to Lord Kelburne.² Retiring from hunt service, he trained race-horses for Mr Merry at Gullane in East Lothian before he took to farming and became tenant of a small farm in Fife. There the late Colonel Anstruther-Thomson stopped one evening after hunting, in order to have a whipper-in's horse, which was very lame, tended, and Knight and one of his daughters kindly gave all the help they could. But, as a farmer, Knight was not successful, and eventually, returning to Linlithgow, he once more occupied the old West Port House, in which he died on the 25th of September 1870, at the age of eighty-two.³ Although an old man, it would seem that he was in good health and able to take exercise almost up to the time of his death, for

¹ *Vide* p. 168.

² Knight is mentioned by Nimrod as being kennel-huntsman to Lord Kelburne in the year 1835. *Vide* 'Northern Tour,' 1838, p. 407. The 'Sporting Magazine' also contains this reference to him: "When winding up the season at Carnwath in Lanarkshire, Lord Kelburne being necessarily absent, Knight was in command and charge."—*Vide* 'Sporting Magazine,' August 1839.

³ Gravestone in Linlithgow old churchyard.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

in a memorandum¹ dated the 14th of November 1866, the late Colonel Gillon of Wallhouse mentions that he was then "hale and hearty. Last Saturday he walked from Linlithgow to Champfleurie to the meet. His eyesight is failing, but he dearly loves to hear the music of the old pack." The following lines by the late Mr Ebenezer Oliphant, Linlithgow, a native of the parish of Torphichen, and apparently a keen sportsman, possess considerable merit. They describe a run in the Torphichen district, and, as will be noticed, mention Knight.

I'm auld you'll observe as a matter of course,
I stand in the shoon o' a worn oot auld horse,
Nae mair at the morn o'er yon mountains I'll go
To hear the glad sound o' the sweet Tally-Ho.

If they met at Crawhill
When the west wind blew shrill
I stole awa up tae Slackend,
Whaur I sune heard the naigs
Coming east Wallhoose Craigs,—
And faster nae horses could spend.

And auld Geordie Knight
In his nune o' delight
Cried "Laddie, which way has he gaen?"
"He gaed east by Ca'law
As fast's he could draw,
But I think to the north he has ta'en."

By this time "the Boy"
Had cross'd Cockleroi,
But there nae shelter he got,
For they ran him sae fine
Awa doon Gledwyn'
That they cut aff his brush at Lochco't.

¹ Memorandum among Hunt papers in the custody of Messrs Glen & Henderson, Linlithgow.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

In a previous chapter¹ it has been indicated that the Hunt as it existed in the end of the eighteenth and the beginning of the nineteenth centuries was to some extent a hunt club. Still, it was never then alluded to otherwise than as the Hunt, and no mention is made of the Hunt Club until the year 1825. In the minutes of a meeting of the Hunt, held on the 14th of February in that year, it is stated that the secretary, Mr Boyd, had addressed a circular relative to the renewal of the hunting establishment by Mr Johnston and Mr Gillon, to the landowners in the counties of Linlithgow and Stirling likely to give countenance and support to the measure, as well as to "the whole members of the present Hunt Club." These were none other than the surviving members of the Hunt as it was when the establishment was broken up in the year 1814, and those who had joined it in "the Interregnum," during which period occasional meetings of a social character had been held alternately at Linlithgow and Stirling, in accordance with previous custom. From the time when the hunting establishment was revived in 1825 until the present day, the Hunt Club has continued to exist almost uninterruptedly,² and rules which were adopted for

¹ *Vide* p. 33.

² The minutes of a meeting held on 31st March 1834, bear that "the meeting, considering that the Club has not met for some years, and being desirous to revive the establishment, authorise the secretary to address a circular letter to all the former members who are absent, requesting a continuance of their support to the Club, and that they would remit to the treasurer a sovereign as their subscription to the same for the present year."—Minute-Book in the custody of Messrs Glen & Henderson, Linlithgow.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

its management in 1826, although since somewhat modified, are, in the main, still in force. These, with a list of the preses from the year 1797 to the present time, will be found among the Appendices¹ to this work. Rule 1 provides that the noblemen and gentlemen connected with the counties of Linlithgow and Stirling, and none other, shall be eligible to become members. Consequently it was not possible for many who have since hunted with the pack to become members of the Club; but a kindly feeling between the Club and the Hunt has always existed, and in many years of the past century the former contributed generously to the funds of the latter.² Rule 7 fixes the "Wednesday nearest the full moon in the months of November, February, and July" for the meetings of the Club, which Rule 12 determines shall be held alternately in Linlithgow and Falkirk. Now, these meetings take place in the former town only, and irrespective of the state of the moon and any possible aid which the members or their guests might derive

¹ *Vide* Appendix II.

² On 29th November 1848, it was unanimously agreed that "the council and committee shall be empowered on balancing the accounts in November, after providing for the reserve fund and the contingent expenses of the year, to present to the master or manager of the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire Foxhounds, such a sum as they consider the state of the funds will permit, as expressive of the good wishes of the Members of the Hunt Club and of their desire to renew association with a fox-hunting establishment."—Minute-Book in the custody of Messrs Glen & Henderson, Linlithgow.

In each of the years 1848, 1849, 1851 to 1855 inclusive, 1857, 1858, and 1862 to 1868 inclusive, the Club contributed to the Hunt funds. It again did so in 1909.



Photo by Scott, Winchburgh.

THE STAR AND GARTER HOTEL, LINLITHGOW.

5TH NOVEMBER 1910.

MR WOODCOCK.

MR A. J. MELDRUM.
(M.F.H.)

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

from her light. The provisions of Rule 8, that every member should "wear at the meetings a blue coat with black velvet turn-down collar, and yellow buttons, having embossed thereon the letters 'L.S.H.,' and a white kersimere waistcoat with similar buttons," and that every member who should appear at the Club in any other dress should "forfeit an imperial gallon of claret for the use of the Club," no longer apply, nor consequently are the buttons now "to be had at Gardner's shop Linlithgow." And when the Club meets at the Star and Garter, Linlithgow, at the present day, it is the ordinary scarlet evening coat of the Hunt with white facings which is worn, albeit there is strictly a slight distinction in the matter of buttons, the members of the Club wearing a silver button with the letters L.S.H. only, and the subscribers to the Hunt a brass one with the same initials, but in different character, beneath a flying fox.

CHAPTER V.

THE SQUIRE OF BARNTON.

1830-1850.

HAD Mr W. R. Ramsay, who, as has been shown, succeeded Mr Hay in the mastership in 1830, not been born the sportsman he was, he could hardly have escaped becoming one in the circumstances which attended his upbringing. In the care of a mother for an only son there would naturally be embraced an endeavour to impart a liking for the sport which the father had loved, and in this, doubtless, she would not be unaided by the father's friends. Possibly it was with the view of developing such a liking that Mr Stirling of Keir presented to Mr George Ramsay's son, whilst the latter was as yet little beyond his cradle-days, the beautiful old hunting-horn,¹ a photograph of which has been reproduced.² The

¹ This horn, which is in the possession of Lord Torphichen, bears the following inscription: "William Ramsay, Esq., of Barnton, from James Stirling, Esq., of Keir, 1812."

² *Vide* illustration, p. 148.



1830.

KENNETH MACLEAY, R.S.A.

MR WILLIAM RAMSAY RAMSAY
OF BARNTON.

From Miniature in the possession of Lord Torphichen.

HISTORY OF THE L. & S. HUNT

possession of large landed estates lying in a hunting country, also, would not be without its influence, and the fortune which Mr Ramsay had inherited from his father, and which must have increased very materially during his long minority, would render the indulgence in any form of sport an easy matter. Thus, within a few months of his having attained manhood, Mr Ramsay came to occupy the position of master of the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire Hounds, and to enter upon that period in the history of the Hunt during which—the country being almost entirely pastoral or agricultural and uninjured by mineral workings—sport was probably at its best. Born on the 29th of May 1809, he succeeded, on the death of his father in the following year, to the estate of Barnton in Mid-Lothian and to the properties of Sauchie and Bannockburn in Stirlingshire. He married on the 4th of August 1828, the Hon. Mary Sandilands, only daughter of James, tenth Lord Torphichen; represented Stirlingshire in Parliament in the years 1831 and 1832; and was subsequently member for Mid-Lothian from 1841 to 1845.¹ On the 9th of January 1832 he was admitted a member of the Caledonian Hunt.

Nimrod entitled his well-known work 'The Chase, the Turf, and the Road,' and although each of these subjects seems to have occupied Mr Ramsay to a considerable extent, it is possible that,

¹ Foster's 'Members of Parliament.'

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

had he and not Nimrod been the author, the order of precedence given to them in the title might have been somewhat different. For "his heart was in the Defiance and the Tally-ho,"¹ and probably he was better known to the racing world of his time than he was in the hunting field. Many of the old Barnton papers were destroyed some years ago, with the view of clearing away what was deemed to be useless matter, and although it is of no avail bemoaning what cannot be undone, it is nevertheless a matter for regret that such an incident should have taken place. Had these papers been preserved, how much information might not they have thrown upon Mr Ramsay's tastes and predilections, how much lighter might not the task have been in respect to this particular period of the Hunt's history?

Captain Barclay of Ury, by whom the Defiance coach was instituted in the summer of 1829, and Mr Ramsay, are said to have been partners as regards its management during at least a portion of its existence; and so anxious was the latter to encourage travelling by it, that he would sometimes take passengers free of charge.

"It is possible that some of my readers may not have heard or read of the renowned Defiance

¹ 'Field and Fern' (South), by The Druid, 1865, p. 54. The Tally-ho coach, which seems to have run between Edinburgh and Stirling, was instituted by Mr Ramsay in April 1828.—*Vide* 'Sporting Magazine,' September 1829.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

coach from Edinburgh to Aberdeen—the Wonder* of Scotland—which rightly indeed may it be called. Any person, however, who may chance to be at Edinburgh, and to step into the coach office of the Waterloo hotel, will see announced, amongst many others, though this stands first on the list,—‘The Defiance Coach to Aberdeen, matchless for speed and safety, at half-past five o’clock every lawful morning.’ And ‘matchless’ no doubt it has been in this part of this world. . . . So complete are its arrangements; so respectable and civil are the servants employed upon it; so well does it keep its time—in addition to the honour of very often being driven by the Captain himself—that the first people in the country are, or were, found in and about it, including even the late Duke of Gordon himself, who would frequently be seen in it on his road south, although some of his own carriages might have been on the road on the same day.”¹

Mr Ramsay as well as Captain Barclay frequently drove the Defiance, a circumstance which probably tended very much to support and maintain its popularity; and “even the gravest Edinburgh professors liked to see the Ramsay coaches with their rich brass-mounted harness, and the scarlets

* “The Shrewsbury and London Wonder Coach is considered the best in England for that length of ground; and was so called, because it was the first that was attempted to be worked over such a distance—152 miles *in one day*.”

¹ Nimrod’s ‘Northern Tour,’ 1838, p. 272.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

and white hats, when the dashing young owner, who appears to have had a preference for two bays and two greys, cross-fashion, was on the box.”¹ Whether “the Barnton hat” was originally used by Mr Ramsay to cover him on the box-seat or in the saddle, is not clear,—probably he wore it on all occasions,—but its outline, tall and straight with an absolutely flat brim, is still familiar to many, and for long it will be associated with the Squire of Barnton as “the Fife hat” will be with the late Laird of Charleton.²

Although it would be out of place to enter into any description here of Mr Ramsay’s many victories on the turf, the names of some of the more or less famous horses which he owned or which carried his colours—the straw jacket, green sleeves and cap—may be mentioned. Perhaps the best known were The Doctor, Inheritor, Despot, and last, but not least, Lanercost,³ winner, as a four-year-old, of the first Cambridgeshire (1839); while Queen Mary,⁴ celebrated later as a brood mare, was his property, and ran in his name when she made her only appearance in public. Thomas Dawson and William I’Anson trained them, and while they

¹ ‘Scott and Sebright,’ by The Druid, 1862, p. 185.

² Colonel Anstruther-Thomson.

³ Lanercost (1835) by Liverpool—Otis. Liverpool by Tramp—Whisker mare. Otis by Bustard—Gayhurst’s dam.

⁴ Queen Mary (1843) by Gladiator—Plenipotentiary mare, dam of Haricot, Blink Bonny (winner of Derby and Oaks), Broomielaw, Blinkhoolie, and many others.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

underwent their preparation at Gullane or Middleham, they were usually wintered at Barnton. When they visited any of the classic race-grounds, they performed the journey in a sort of stall on wheels, drawn by cart-horses. The first vehicle of this kind was made by a firm in London, who patented it as an invention, and on Mr Ramsay getting the estate carpenter at Barnton, James Bell, to construct for him a carriage on similar lines, the builders of the original brought an action against Bell for infringement of the patent, and many of the estate people employed in its construction gave evidence on his behalf. The case does not seem to be reported, but it is said that the raisers of this action were unsuccessful—the home-made conveyance being held to be of a different mould from the original, and wanting in the essentials necessary to constitute infringement.

Mr Ramsay was a fine judge of a horse, and his stud of hunters was the envy of many equally rich sportsmen who, somehow or other, never seemed to get the right sort.¹ The Squire, a chestnut—the horse which he is depicted as riding in Chalon's picture²—Repeater a dapple grey, Binks the Bagman a chestnut, Rocket a black or brown, Round Robin a bay stallion, Lambton and Jack Sheppard, are handed down as having been famous hunters in their day; and old In-

¹ 'Baily's Magazine,' March 1896.

² *Vide* illustration, p. 134.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

heritor, after winning two Liverpool cups, in the latter part of his career carried his owner well.¹

As has been mentioned, Mr Ramsay engaged Christopher Scott as his huntsman, the whippers-in being Tom Rintoul and James Robertson; and the late Colonel Anstruther-Thomson could just remember the hounds passing through Edinburgh on their way from Duns Castle to Barnton in the autumn of 1830.

“Mr Ramsay has been lucky in his choice of a huntsman; he is a respectable man, and perfectly master of his business. In the field he says little, but when his hounds are getting near their fox, he cheers them on to the death in first-rate style. . . . The hounds are in beautiful condition, under the most perfect control, pack well together, try the strongest whin most determinedly, never throw up their heads to catch a view, and while they stick to their game like trumps, are at the huntsman’s heels at the least tout of the horn.”²

Rintoul, whose life with hounds began in 1817, had come to the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire country in 1826 as second whipper-in to Knight. His father was head gamekeeper to the Earl of Elgin, and Tom was born either in Fife or Kinross-shire in the year 1801. “His career began in the racing stable along with Tom Dawson, under Dawson senior, about the time when John Osborne was hunting groom to Mr Taylor of Kirton. Tom

¹ ‘Baily’s Magazine,’ March 1896.

² ‘Sporting Magazine,’ April 1831.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

was never 'put up' and, therefore, his life was not like that of the well-known Scottish rider about that time, whose difficulties in wasting were so great that he travelled from Ayr to Carlisle, leading a mare, on four halfpenny biscuits and two-penny-worth of Epsom salts."¹ After acting as second whipper-in for four seasons, he was first whipper-in for nine, and finally, huntsman for twelve, — thus eventually completing a record of twenty-five years' service with the pack.

Where and when Mr Ramsay commenced his first season is not recorded, but the following verses may possibly have been written with the view of commemorating an "opening day" on the Linlithgowshire side of the country.

Scarce had morning the folds of its gray mist withdrawn,
And the shrill voice of Chanticleer welcomed the dawn,
Ere our hackneys we mounted and lighted our weeds,
And to Craigie hill covert hied on for our steeds;
Where a field of at least fifty sportsmen were met,
Tho' on all kinds of cattle, yet each on his pet—
From the short-legg'd well-bred'un the country that suits,
To the veriest garron "vot 'obbles in boots."
Having trush'd round this wilderness half of the day,
To Winchburgh's green gorse the hounds trotted away,
Of a rattling good fox the most certain resort—
Thanks to old Mrs Brown² who looks to our sport.
Davy's³ poultry yard suffers 'tis most true, but then,
He's the last man to grudge a good fox a fat hen;
For in truth he's the "varmintest sportsman as is,"
"Von on 'em"—Heaven prosper his jolly old phiz!

¹ 'Field and Fern' (South), by The Druid, 1865, p. 53.

² Mrs Brown who kept the Inn at Winchburgh.

³ "Davy," her son.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

In fine form the hounds, William Hay's¹ choicest lot,
Had scarce been thrown in by old Christopher Scott,²
Ere a good fox is view'd breaking gallantly forth
To the wood of Duntarvie, which lies to the north :
Headed back from his point, hark how lengthened and loud
Are the curses bestow'd on the meddling crowd !
Till the "view" given by Tom³ from the top of a ridge,
Shews that reynard has cross'd the canal by the bridge.
And now he must face our best country, nor lag,
If his bacon he'd save, till he reached Binnie crag.
See how eagerly burst forth the whole of the pack,
With a fair start for each scarlet coat at their back ;
While Echo replies with wild chorus of sounds
To the melody burst from the throats of the hounds.
"To their game how they settle !" old Christopher cries ;
Only give the hounds time, and in vain the fox flies.
"Pray gentlemen, hold hard—yoicks, Merlin is right !
Forward ! *now* catch them who can in their flight."
Bold Norman Shairp,⁴ eager to shine in the lead,
His loose rein and merry heel rousing his steed,
With the nerve of an artist a rasper o'ertops,
And a *splash* in the eyes of the cocktail who stops.
On bay mare, whose fencing can n'er be outdone,
See young Ramsay⁵ approve himself Barnton's own son,
And, as master of hounds, shew most nobly maintained
The bright name which his sire as a sportsman has gained.
Putting Hartlepool well at his fences observe
In Frank Grant's⁶ straight line, eye to hounds, and best nerve,
While the Wilkies⁷ on cattle "vot can go the pace,"
Despite of their weight, in the first flight keep place :
And on bare-boned old Miracle, Grieves making play,
O'er an "upstanding twod" of a wall, shews the way.
See Forbes,⁸ planted fast in a bull-finching hedge,
Act unwilling the part of a well-driven wedge ;

¹ Mr Hay of Duns Castle, the previous master. ² The huntsman.

³ Tom Rintoul, 1st whipper-in.

⁴ Major Norman Shairp, yr. of Houstoun.

⁵ Mr W. R. Ramsay of Barnton.

⁶ Mr, afterwards Sir, Francis Grant.

⁷ The Messrs Wilkie of Ormiston.

⁸ The late Mr Forbes of Callendar.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

While Stein on clipp'd screw, head and tail up, away,
The role of sledge-hammer is destined to play,
Holding hard vainly tries to avoid the stop-gap,
And involves both the riders in dismal mishap.
Next in buckskins comes Binning, who always pretends
To see further through mill-stones than most of his friends :
And to prove it, he seldom endangers his neck,
But trusts to M'Adam, and the chance of a check.
Now the depth and the pace have exhausted the pith
Of those Modern Athenians, Sprott, Kenny, and Smith,
Of Melvill and Maxwell, Craig, Thomson and Hay,
Nor will "Richard's himself" be again for the day :
And Wood's bay, to moisten his *whistle*, I think
Of the water of Lethe¹ would fain have a drink.
Still fresh, harking forward, we view the *élite*,
The middling nags sobbing, the bad ones dead beat :
And of those who have long since been brought to an end,
Some blame the lost shoe, some shew "bellows to mend."
Now the hounds run more mute, and more eagerly press
Poor reynard, who, doubling, shows signs of distress,
Run into, in open, the varmint at last
Yields his brush. Hark, woo-whoop ! the struggle is past.²

During the first few years of his mastership Mr Ramsay hunted, besides the country proper, part of Dumbartonshire, the western part of Mid-Lothian, and the north-eastern part of Berwickshire, while the Duke of Buccleuch overtook the south-western part of Berwickshire, Roxburghshire, and the bulk of Mid and East Lothian.³ In 1833, a portion of the Lanarkshire country having been lent by Lord Kelburne to Mr Ramsay,⁴ the latter relinquished Berwickshire⁵ in favour of the late

¹ Leith ?

² 'Sporting Magazine,' February 1831.

³ Ibid., October 1831.

⁴ Ibid., September 1833.

⁵ 'New Sporting Magazine,' March 1837 ; 'Field and Fern' (South), 1865, p. 159.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

Earl of Wemyss, then Lord Elcho, to whom the Duke, at that time, had given up East Lothian.¹ The home country and the Dumbartonshire and Mid-Lothian districts were worked from the Laurieston and Barnton kennels, the Berwickshire country probably from kennels at Duns Castle, and the Lanarkshire district from kennels at Newmains. The hounds hunted three and sometimes four days a-week, and many long and severe runs are recorded. Early in the season of 1830, when in Berwickshire, they had a hard day from Preston near Duns, and accounted for a brace of foxes. After what is described as having been "a beautiful burst of eight miles without a check across the hill country," at the end of which the fox took refuge in the dairy at Cockburn and was killed, Scott proceeded to draw the covert at Prestonhill. From this a good fox went away, and hounds ran well over the Preston Stan-shiel, winding round the base of the hill, and pointing for the low country. When near Cockburn mill, however, they swung left-handed, and continued by Preston towards Lintlaw. There, the fox being headed by some ploughmen, they again swung left-handed, went on over Lintlaw hill, through Buncle wood, crossed the road a little to the east of Marygold, and bending slightly to the right, reached the strong covert at Greenburn. There was now a burning scent, and the pace was consequently tremendous. Leaving

¹ Papers at Dalkeith House.

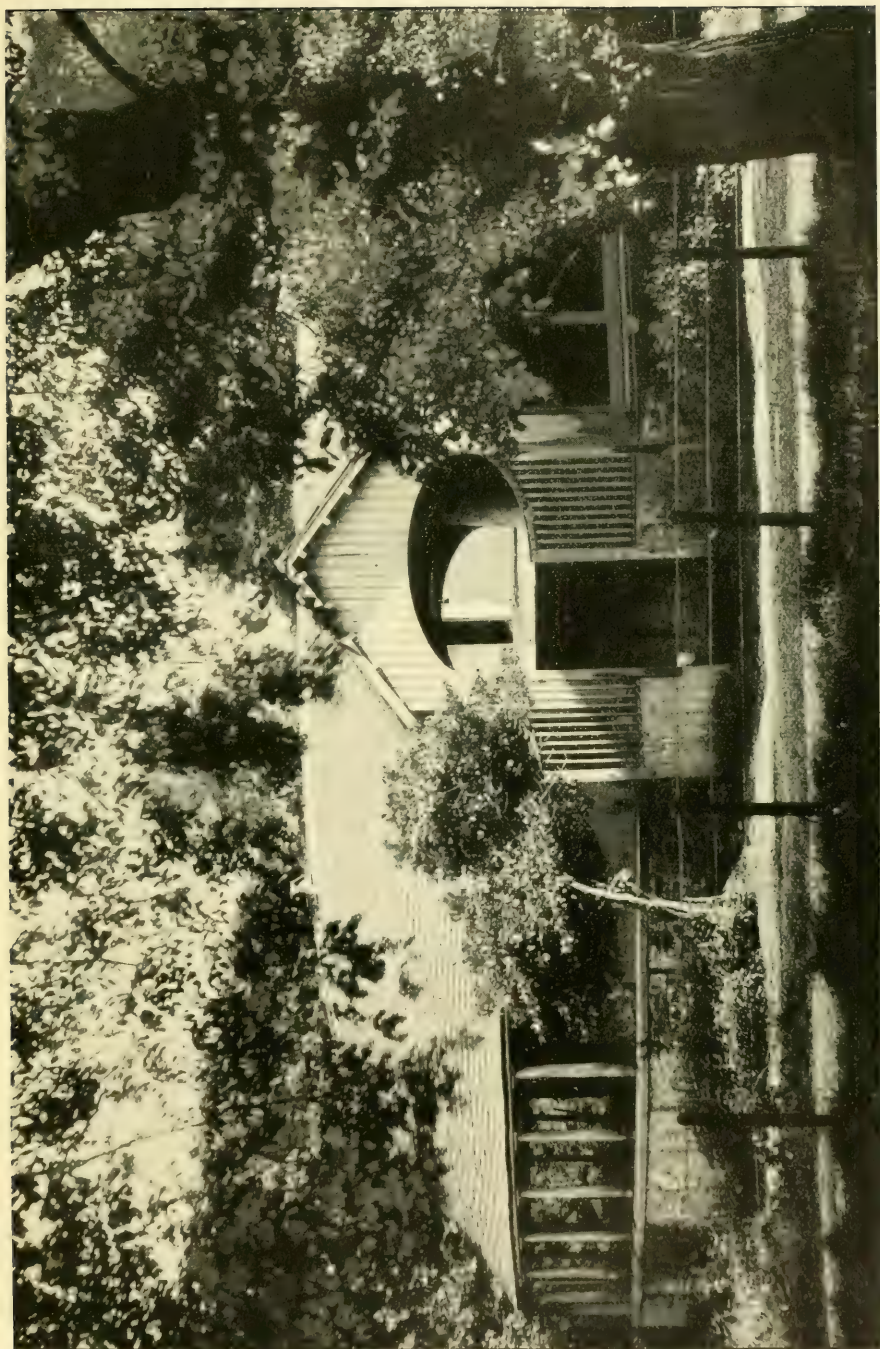


Photo by Auld, Edinburgh.

THE OLD RIDING-SCHOOL AT BARNTON.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

Greenburn on their right, and passing close to Warlawbank, they drove forward towards Swansfield, and thence up the glen of the Eye water nearly to Houndwood inn. Crossing the water a little below Horslie, they attained the Brockholes, and heartened on by Scott's cheer, ran into their fox in the the midst of a flock of sheep.¹ Although the point appears to have been little more than five miles, the distance covered could not have been less than from twelve to fourteen. In the home country, also, there was sport. On the 28th of February, after meeting at Riccarton in Mid-Lothian, a good hunt took place from Bonnington plantation, from which hounds went away northwards towards Dundas, but turning reached Norton, and eventually ran to ground near Riccarton.² On the 5th of the following month Calder wood provided a fox which stood up before the pack for some ten miles, the line lying over the rough grass country between Midcalder and the Cairn hills, the pace being tremendous, and without a moment's check.³

Mr Ramsay's second season was characterised by brilliant sport, and it was generally admitted that the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire had a greater number of fine runs, particularly in the Duns country, than any of the other packs in Scotland and, moreover, scarcely ever failed to kill their fox.⁴ Although the veins of sport which

¹ 'Sporting Magazine,' April 1831.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid., April 1833.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

ran through this season were wanting in the following one, the 20th of April 1833 must have been long remembered by those who took part in the run which then befell. The fixture was Harburn, the seat of Mr Alexander Young, and after several of the coverts belonging to him had been drawn, hounds were taken to Auchinhard. Near it they found at once, and forcing their fox away, took a fine line of country over grass. On coming to the river Almond, they forded it close to the village of Blackburn, and leaving that on their right, ran on to Sir William Baillie's coverts at the Cappers. Thence they continued to the Bathgate and Airdrie road, which they crossed a little to the west of Armadale toll-bar, and running three miles farther, still mostly over grass, reached the high ground west of Bridge Castle, where the chase ended in the death of the fox. The distance as the crow flies is stated to have been not less than ten miles, and as hounds ran sixteen, with only one check, while the pace, the whole way, was such that none but good horses in the best of condition could live with them.¹ How this performance on the part of his hounds must have delighted Scott can easily be imagined, for in addition to killing their fox at the end of so fine a hunt, were there not up at the finish, fourteen and a half out of the sixteen couples which had left the covert at Auchinhard! But

¹ Newspaper cutting in scrap-book which belonged to Mr Alexander Young of Harburn, in the possession of the author.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

“coming events cast their shadows before,” and this day’s work was but an omen of the good sport which was to follow.

In the immediately succeeding season, Livingstone wood held a fox which provided two capital runs. The first of these occurred on the 14th of November (1833), when hounds ran straight to Dechmont at racing pace, crossed the Edinburgh and Bathgate road, and bending to the left, pointed for the Bathgate hills,—one of the highest points of which, the Knock, was reached in twenty-five minutes time. There, a slight check occurred owing to the fox having been headed, but the line being recovered, they turned sharp south and, continuing at the same pace, pointed for the low country, recrossed the Edinburgh and Bathgate road about three miles to the west of the place at which they had first crossed it, and ran their fox to ground at the Inch. The distance as the crow flies from Livingstone to Dechmont, thence to the Knock, and thence to the Inch, is six and a half miles—perhaps between seven and eight as hounds ran—while the time, according to two accounts, was forty minutes.¹ Some weeks afterwards the same fox was again found in Livingstone wood. Again hounds went away hard at him, and ran very much the same line of country as they had done on the previous occasion, until the Knock was reached. This time, however, the fox was not headed there, and they

¹ ‘Sporting Magazine,’ February 1834.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

drove straight ahead as if tied to the scent, and at a tremendous pace, killing him on the Bathgate hills above Wallhouse in forty-six minutes from the find. Few of the field who saw the fox found were able to last to the finish, but Mr Ramsay, Major Shairp, and one or two others distinguished themselves highly. The whole of the line lay over grass, and had the fences not been "moderate," the pace was so tremendous that no horse could have got to the end.¹ One other run which took place during this season is deserving of mention. It occurred on the 5th of February, when hounds met at West Binny. There had been a hard frost in the morning, and perhaps, in consequence, some delay in drawing; for it was not till after mid-day that a fox was found in Riccarton (Longmuir) covert. In about five minutes time hounds broke, taking the now old and familiar line over grass, but through deep and, in places, boggy ground to Bangour, from which they ran to Binny plantation, *i.e.*, Binny cottage or Craigbinning, and thence, with scent breast high, to Binny craig. From that they continued by the Braes o' Mar to Champfleurie, and after crossing the Union canal went on towards Carriden. When near Walton farm, however, the fox, being headed by a boy with a sheep-dog, turned as if for Kinneil wood, but that he was not destined to reach, and hounds pulled him down near old Bonhard House at a quarter

¹ 'Sporting Magazine,' February 1834.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

past three, just one hour and three quarters from the time of finding.¹

The season of 1834, also, produced some fine runs. On the 22nd of October the hounds met at Stonebyres, in Lanarkshire, when, finding in the glen at Craignethan, they went away at once for the Avon water, turned, crossed the Nethan for Stonebyres hill, and again went away at a great pace to Dillar hill. From that, although hard pressed, the fox managed to carry on to Dumbreck where, through the strength of the gorse, he was enabled to dwell for a short time. Refinding him, however, they forced him away "at a death pace" across the Carlisle road, beyond which he faced the open country, apparently without any point, for miles, turned to the right across Fauldhouse Flow, and back along the Carlisle road for his own country. But he was unable to regain it, and they ran into him in a cowshed at the end of "a trying run of two hours and fifteen minutes."² In the afternoon of the 11th of December, after meeting at Binny craig, a long run took place from a small gorse covert near the Braes o' Mar, from which hounds threaded their way to the Linlithgow road. From that they wheeled, and skirting the covert in which they had found, pointed for Binny craig, sank the hill, passed the farms of Hangingside and Oatridge, and leaving the village of Ecclesmachan on their right, traversed the Tar hill to Hillend.

¹ 'Sporting Magazine,' March 1834.

² Ibid., December 1834.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

Thence they ran the banks of the Niddry burn but turning right-handed from Bell's mills went on by Niddry Mains and East Mains, and across the Edinburgh and Bathgate road to Drumshoreland. It was now getting late and scent was failing, but they worked steadily up to their fox in that large covert, and once more compelled him to break, running him by Broxburn village and Kilpunt to the Almond, which they crossed a little above Bird's mill before marking to ground on the banks of the river at Cliftonhall,—“an hour and forty minutes without anything like a check.”¹

During these earlier seasons of Mr Ramsay's mastership, the field, for that of a provincial country, was often a large one, more especially on occasions when the hounds met within easy reach of Edinburgh. Amongst others, the following are mentioned as having been out hunting:—the Earl of Caithness, the Earl of Hopetoun, the Earl of Morton, Lord John Scott, Captain the Hon. James Sandilands, Sir Joseph Ratcliffe, Sir William Scott of Ancrum, Mr Ainsworth, Mr Burrell of Broomhall, Northumberland, Captain Christie, Mr Dundas of Arniston, Mr Earl, Mr Forbes of Calendar, Mr Gatacre, Mr W. Gibson-Craig of Riccarton, Mr, afterwards Sir, Francis Grant, Mr Hare of Calderhall, Mr Hay of Duns Castle, Mr R. Lindsay, Mr Maxwell, Mr Hay Mackenzie, Captain Makepeace, Mr Mayou, Mr Place, Major

¹ ‘Sporting Magazine,’ February 1835.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

Rickaby, Captain Richardson, Captain Russell, Mr Shairp of Houstoun, Mr R. Spiers, Mr Stewart, Dr Wardrop, Mr Archibald Wilkie, and Mr G. Williamson; while no less a personage than Nimrod graced the field with his presence in the season last referred to (1834).

Nimrod,¹ who had hunted from his boyhood, was at this time an accepted authority on all matters connected with the chase. His writings, which possess a considerable charm of style, and are among the best of sporting classics, afford much interesting information concerning many of the more famous hunting establishments of the day. His 'Northern Tour,' written as the tour was made during the hunting season of 1834, contains a description of the different packs of hounds in Scotland at that time, including the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire. But Nimrod's appearance with the pack took place under unfortunate circumstances, for the weather was stormy, and consequently the hounds were not seen to advantage. On December the 6th, the first of the only two days on which he was in the field, the fixture was Ormiston hill. He was then mounted by Mr Ramsay, and from him we have an account of the day's proceedings.

"Our first scent was on a disturbed fox which we could not hunt up to, to do any good with, so went to try for another. We found in Calderwood, the most extraordinary, and the most

¹ Nimrod—Mr Charles James Apperley—was born in 1778.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

romantic place, save one, that I ever saw a pack of fox-hounds thrown into. In fact, it was a place that appeared to me like a forlorn hope; but owing to a combination of circumstances, for instance, an improvement in the day, and the exertions of the men, . . . added to the steady working of the hounds, our fox quitted this wild ravine, and boldly faced the open country. But I shall not soon forget the crossing of this ravine, or the rocky bottomed brook that was roaring in the hollow, or the narrow path by which we gained the opposite side. The scene was really an imposing one. The clatter of the horses' feet among the stones, as they scrambled, as it were,

‘Up the margin of the lake,
Between the precipice and brake,’

with the cry of the hounds, beautifully re-echoed from the deep and winding valley which was below us, gave a wildness to the scene seldom experienced in fox-hunting, and requiring an abler pen than mine to describe. When once clear of this awkward and perplexing defile, a good country presented itself; the pack settled down to their fox, and I thought we were in for a second East Gordon clipper,¹ as these out-of-the-way-looking places generally produce those that can fly for their lives. At the end of a mile

¹ Nimrod here refers to a run which the Duke of Buccleuch's Hounds had had on 18th November 1834, from East Gordon in Berwickshire. — *Vide* ‘Northern Tour,’ 1838, p. 79 *et seq.*

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

and a half, however, the hounds came to a check in a road which would have been a fatal one but for the following circumstance. As Lord Hope-toun and myself were in the act of leaping a low wall into the road, his lordship exclaimed to me, '*There is the scent,*'—catching with his eye, what escaped mine, namely, two couples of hounds carrying it down a strip of plantations, on the opposite side of the road. Clapping spurs to my horse, I gave Scott the office, and he instantly brought the body of the pack on the line, but they soon threw up again. Having an eye to his point, however, he persisted in pursuing the line, even beyond what appeared to me to be warrantable, as not a hound even feathered on a scent; but he was rewarded for his perseverance. He had the pleasure of seeing his hounds take up the scent all at once through a gate, into a grass field, and never quit it till they ran into their fox at the end of forty minutes, an hour in all, over a fine scenting country."¹

Nimrod's comments on the hounds and Hunt servants too are interesting, and while he does not seem to have been favourably impressed with the appearance of the former as a pack, he nevertheless casts no aspersions on their working qualities, but rather extols these.

"The general character of the Linlithgow pack may, I think, be summed up in a few words. They are not hounds to strike the eye, or exactly perhaps

¹ 'Northern Tour,' 1838, p. 213 *et seq.*

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

to please the eye of a nice observer of form and points. It is evident, indeed, that in the breeding and the drafting of them, appearances have not been allowed to preponderate much in the scales. There are some coarse hounds among them; nevertheless they are a very business-like looking pack, taken as a whole, and the character they bear is highly creditable to them. It is indeed from character, from report chiefly, that I am enabled to speak of their performances; for, with the exception of the finish to the first day's run, no circumstances could be more untoward than those under which it was my ill-fortune to see them."¹

Of Scott, whom he describes as "rather overtopped, but not looking much amiss in his saddle, with a ruddy, but healthy-looking face, and somewhat of an intellectual eye," Nimrod says "his condition I thought good; but it is in the kennel that he is considered to shine. As a huntsman he labours under disadvantages—not those of age, for although he has the honourable appellation of 'Old Scott,' there is nothing against him on that score. But no man of his form can ride forward enough to see hounds in all their work, over any country that I have yet seen, much less over his, which is strongly fenced and deep. . . . Scott's long experience and general knowledge of hounds and hunting, make him often quoted in Scotland as authority; and, moreover, he has been the theme of many a good joke. In short, he is what is called

¹ 'Northern Tour,' 1838, p. 223.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

a character, as the following anecdotes will show. Being some distance behind his hounds one day when they were running very hard, Mr Maxwell—the son of his first master, Sir William—passed him, with the hope of being able to catch them. ‘It won’t do, sir,’ holloas Scott to him; ‘’tis no use your haggrivating your horse in that manner; *if you was on a heagle you would not catch ’em.*’ On another occasion he missed some hounds after a long run in a wild country, and they were eventually lost. On some one condoling with him upon what most huntsmen would consider rather a serious bereavement, Scott replied with a smile, ‘Oh, it’s nought worth thinking about; *it is a poor concern that can’t afford to lose a hound or two.*’”¹

Nor does Nimrod forget to bestow a word of praise on Rintoul. “The activity and science displayed by the first whipper-in delighted me; he was a perfect Mungo, here, there, and everywhere, telegraphing with his hand and whip when he could not be heard, and giving the office with his voice when he could”; while he proceeds to relate that Mr Ramsay rode a very clever hunter—a chestnut, with a blaze of white down his face,—that Lord Hopetoun was also splendidly mounted and rode well to the hounds, that Captain Peter Hay of Mugdrum House, in Fife, went “as usual” on his celebrated old horse Coroner, and that “that noted old sportsman, Major Shairp of Houstoun,”

¹ ‘Northern Tour,’ 1838, pp. 223 and 224.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

also went well on a weedy thorough-bred mare, jumping a very wide place from a stand.

If, as has been suggested, hunting did not occupy the foremost place as regards sport with Mr Ramsay, he was nevertheless fond of hounds and a hard rider, for The Druid mentions that "Lonsdale blood was Mr Ramsay's *delight*," and that "when he did get a lead over a strong country, he was very bad to beat."¹ But Beaufort as well as Lonsdale blood had a charm for him, and his list for 1834 includes Bedford, 5 years, by the Duke of Beaufort's Brusher²—Dairymaid.³ Bedford, who in colour was red or red-pied, seems to have been an excellent hound, thoroughly to be trusted in chase or in a difficulty, and the progenitor of some good and hard workers. His son Bracer⁴ was remarkable for his power and symmetry, and when H. B. Chalon painted the picture of Mr Ramsay and the pack, Bracer was made one of the chief hound studies. The painting of this picture occupied nearly a year, during which time Chalon stayed at Barnton, but the canvas is a large one,⁵ and the work embraces, besides the portrait of Mr Ramsay, portraits of Scott and the whippers-in, Rintoul and Jim Harrison, and also those of many of the hounds, among which are Bedford,

¹ 'Field and Fern' (South), 1865, p. 54.

² The Duke of Beaufort's Brusher (1822) by Dorimont (1818)—Bravery (1815); Dorimont by Denmark (1813)—Dalliance (1814); Bravery by Mr Heron's Bustler—Lady (1812); Denmark by Lord Lonsdale's Jason—Diligent (1809).

³ Dairymaid (1824) by Mr Nichol's Duplicate—his Nimble.

⁴ Bracer (1832) by Bedford (1830)—Rapid.

⁵ The picture measures 7 feet 9 inches by 5 feet.



MR W. R. RAMSAY AND THE HOUNDS.

MR RAMSAY,

T. RINTOUL, (on Whippers-in),

C. SCOTT (Huntsman),

J. HARRISON (and Whippers-in).

From a painting in the possession of Lord Forthcliffe.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

Monitor,¹ and Bracer—the hound next but one behind the terrier.

And now joy and gladness reigned throughout the length and breadth of the land on the occasion of the ascension to the throne of Queen Victoria. Possibly Mr Ramsay may have bent before his youthful sovereign whilst in London on his parliamentary duties, but it is probable that Court functions were not much to his liking, and that as soon as it was possible for him to leave town, he might be seen hastening northwards to his quiet home in Mid-Lothian, surrounded by its beautiful park and tall trees, where the rooks circled and cawed and the wood-pigeons softly repeated “tak’ two coos Davy.” For at Barnton there was almost everything that the heart of a sportsman could desire—a pack of foxhounds whose kennel, with huntsman’s house adjoining, lay within a stone’s throw of the mansion-house; a riding-school² in which hounds and horses could be exercised in the severest of weather; race-horses with suitable accommodation for them, hunters, hacks, coach-horses and coaches, with stabling and coach-houses which would almost have met the requirements of a prince. Thus could Mr Ramsay with ease, as the spirit moved him, hear the rattle of the splinter-bars, the thunder of his thorough-breds’ feet upon the turf, or the cry of his own hounds. Naturally, in the hunting season, the hounds would receive most attention, and that they could then delight the ear

¹ Monitor, got from Mr Chalmers of Auldbar.

² *Vide* illustration, p. 122.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

may be accepted as certain, for as already indicated, many of them were either of Beaufort or Lonsdale blood, each of which was noted for tongue. Indeed, from the nature of the country, abounding as it does in strips and woodlands, it is more than probable that the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire pack has never been altogether an unmusical one, although the quality may have varied in degree from time to time. There could, however, owing to the pace, be but little music from the pack in a run such as that from "Drumshorlan to Mar" described in verse, and handed down under the title of "A West-Lothian Song."

A WEST-LOTHIAN SONG.

OUR nags are all saddled,—our hearts full of glee ;
The hounds, gathered round, are awaiting the Squire ;¹
Drumshorlan's the cover,—and certain are we
That it covers a fox, if there's one in the shire :—
So look to your girthing,—there's "*promise of war*,"
For this is the season when foxes run far :
 There's death in the gale ;—
 Such a breeze cannot fail
To carry the scent from Drumshorlan to Mar.

'Tis late in the season, and breathing of spring,
There's a gleam of the sun thro' the grey cloudy sky ;
And here comes the Squire, like a bird on the wing ;—
So men, mount your nags, for the moment is nigh :—
See close to the cover old Christopher² stand !
His heart in his eye, and his cap in his hand :—
 "Hark in hark," is the cry,
 With one cheer, or thereby ;
And the pack has rush'd in like a conquering band.

¹ Mr Ramsay of Barnton.

² Christopher Scott, huntsman.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

There's a musical whimper has struck on the ear,
And a shaking of furze has attracted the eye,
And the sterns of a dozen of fox-hounds appear
Above the thick brushwood, all "flourishing" high.
"At him, there, my good hounds," is old Christopher's cheer;
And the fast uns creep on, from the crowd to get clear:—
 "Yoix forward—he's gone!
 Forward on—forward on!"
May the foremost have luck, and the devil the rear!

He's gone from Drumshorlan,—not two minutes gone:—
 Oh, none need to doubt, or deliberate here:
The scent lies like dew on the path he has run;—
 And straight thro' the thundering multitude steer,
All fearless and fierce,—like the best of their kind,
Some stragglers of hounds in the gorse left behind:—
 Now a bend in the track
 Has united the pack!
And they move like one body,—impelled by one mind.

Not a sign of a check, and old Houstoun is pass'd!
 Some fox from a distance, I rather suppose:—
"By the lord, my old fellows, we've nick'd it at last,"
 Says young William Baillie (*a*), as forward he goes.
"There's no use in hunting," cries Forbes (*b*), "if one can't
Stick close to the hounds, and the slow-coaches plant."
 "Clear the way;—clear the way,"
 Shouts old Peter Hay (*c*),
"Or we'll all lose our places, I'm d——d if we shan't."

Thro' the galloping pastures of green Dechmont hill,
 This sport-loving varmint has chosen his way;
If he has but the luck as he has the good will,
 The sun will go down on a glorious day:—

(*a*) William Baillie, Esq., younger of Polkemmet.

(*b*) William Forbes, Esq., of Callendar.

(*c*) Peter Hay, Esq., of Mugdrum, one of the most thorough-bred sportsmen in Scotland, who occasionally honours West Lothian with his presence. Should these lines ever by any chance meet his eye, it is hoped he will forgive the liberty taken with his name.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

But see, for a moment, the good hounds are out :
Not so Tom Rintoul,¹ who has wheel'd them about,
While one blast of the horn
Brings them back to yon thorn,
Round which the old villain has doubled no doubt.

“Down the strip, for a thousand!—old Bedford² has spoken,
I ne'er knew him utter such language in vain ;
And see!—in a phalanx compact and unbroken,
Away bursts the pack on their quarry again.”—
Away to the northward,—away thro' Bangour,
West Binny is passed ;—“will he earth in the Muir ?”
“Who is that on his back,
In that deep boggy slack ?”
“I think it is ‘*Gamus*’ (a), but am not quite sure.”

He'll have none of the Long Muir, this prince of a beast,
Spurns Riccarton wood, and disdains Cockleroi,
Turns his brush to the covers,—his head to the east,
And passes the old tower of Ochiltree bye :
Who shall tell of the scores that pull'd up in despair,
When grim Binny crag rear'd his head in the air ?
“Five guineas I'll wager
That yonder's the Major,³
Gone down like a diver, along with his mare !”

The pace is too good for condolence to utter
One word of enquiry ;—“head,—leg,—collar-bone ?”
The motto seems here,—“every man his own shutter,”
And here even Johnny (b) is deaf to a groan.

(a) The Hon. James Sandilands.

(b) Professor John Lizars ; who asserts that he is deaf in one ear, and
invariably chances to have that ear in the right direction on
these occasions.

¹ Tom Rintoul, first whipper-in.

² Bedford. *Vide* p. 134.

³ Probably Major Shairp of Houstoun.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

“Have at him there, Brilliant,¹—good hounds at him there,”
Cries the Squire, sitting straight on his Hurricane (*a*) mare ;
 “I’d give half-a-guinea,
 That old Mantalini (*b*)
Had not been left sticking, the devil knows where.”

Still forward the fox ;—on the left Champfleurie,—
 And the badger-earths passed without notice or call :
But some fatal signs make it certain to me
 That a few minutes longer must witness his fall.
The pace is now dropping, which erst was so hard,
He has threaded that hedge-row, and this stable-yard :
 Whose nag is that there
 With his tail in the air,
And his carcass extended along the green sward ?

Not just at the Braes, but close on their bounds,
 He meets in the open his glorious death ;
The sobbing of steeds, and the panting of hounds,
 Make the music that sweetens his faltering breath :
Tom holds him aloft in air,—prouder by far
Than a conqueror crown’d with the laurels of war ;
 While from out the glad group,
 Wild Murray’s (*c*) who-hoop
Has scarce yet died away in the echoes of Mar.

The point from Drumshoreland to the Braes o’
Mar is not much more than four miles, but on
turning to the Ordnance Survey map and en-
deavouring, from the places mentioned, to trace

- (*a*) A grey mare, the property of Mr Ramsay of Barnton, so called from her rushing propensities.
- (*b*) A conceited person who writes foolish verses, so nick-named by Mr Ramsay.
- (*c*) Well known in the West Lothian Hunt by the appellation of “Tom Murray.”

¹ Brilliant (1833) by Lord Kelburne’s Brusher—Dairymaid (1824).

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

the line of this run, it would seem that the distance covered might quite easily have been fifteen or sixteen miles.

Shortly after the close of the season of 1838, Scott retired. He had talked of doing so for some little time previously, for his weight had been increasing, and he was no longer able to ride up to his hounds as he had done. This much may be gathered from the West-Lothian song alone, for while it was he who, "with his heart in his eye" put hounds into covert and cheered them when drawing, it was Rintoul who at the end of the run held the fox "aloft in air." The time had come, according to his own statement, when Rintoul, whom he knew was well worthy of the huntsman's place, should have it all to himself.¹ Some three years before, he had been entertained to dinner at Falkirk, by a number of those then hunting with the pack, and presented with a piece of plate in testimony of their respect for him as a man and their admiration of his talents as a huntsman.² After his retirement he took a small farm called The Camphort on the Monreith estate in Wigtownshire; but as a farmer he does not appear to have been more successful than his predecessor in office, George Knight, and he finally moved into the Burnside cottage at Monreith, where he died of paralysis on the 5th of February

¹ 'Sporting Magazine,' August 1839.

² Ibid., September 1836.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

1865. On his death-bed he left to the present Sir Herbert Maxwell a silver hunting-horn, which he apologised to the late Sir William for not leaving to him, saying, by way of excuse, that the horn would be of more use to his son, who was "beginning a sporting career!"¹

What happy days those immediately following the 28th of October (1839) must have been at Barnton, for was not Lanercost's victory at Newmarket an accomplished fact! "His four-year-old labours that September and October were equal to those of a Hercules . . . [but] as his five races had been mere exercise gallops, and he seemed to get tone every day, I'Anson determined to put his head Heath-wards for the Cambridgeshire on the 28th. Between Dumfries and Annan his troubles began, by the breaking down of one of the horses of his three-wheel van,² which was hardly big enough for him when he was travelling night and day. For the last seventy miles he grew so weary that he stood on his toes with his heels up against the door, and propping his loin as he could. Hence when he reached Newmarket he was so paralysed

¹ On this horn, which is still at Monreith, the following words are inscribed: "Presented to Mr Christopher Scott, Huntsman to the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire Hounds, by a number of gentlemen desirous of recording their sense of his merit and their approbation of his conduct. August 6th 1836."

² The last van used, stood for many years after the purpose for which it was constructed had ceased to exist, inside the Barnton gate opposite North Clermiston farm. It had *four* wheels.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

that he 'could hardly be abused into a trot,' and to coax him out of a trot into a canter was quite out of Noble's power. There was nothing for it but to cover him up from nose to tail in his box, till the sweat fairly poured off him, and he was so fresh two or three days afterwards that he positively 'wanted to go shopping on his road to the course, and not through the shop-door either.' Still he settled down at the post, and if Mickleton Maid had not nettled him up so tremendously by the pace she made for Hetman Platoff, to whom he gave 11 lbs., Noble could never have driven him in a sharp finish with such a speedy customer as 'Bowes's Bay.' This was the maiden year of the two great stakes, and although some high weights and those three-year-olds have run close up for them since, neither of them has been won, [except by Lanercost], at 8 st. 9 lbs. Lord George might well say, 'What a wonderful animal he is! he neither sweats nor blows!'"¹

Two years later Lanercost was sold by Mr Ramsay to Mr Kirby, and while the evening of his days was passed at Chantilly,² it is said that his bones lie at Barnton.³ A most devoted friendship existed between the horse and a dog, which kept him company in his stall at I'Anson's. Before the

¹ 'Scott and Sebright,' by The Druid, 1862, p. 189 *et seq.*

² *Ibid.*, p. 191.

³ Fores' 'Sporting Notes and Sketches,' vol. xvii., 1900—"The Cradle-Land of the Dawsons" by Rockwood.



1532

LANERCOST.

From painting in the possession of Mr. Keith Ramsay Muirhead, Edinburgh.

HARRINGTON.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

Doncaster meeting of 1841, the pair got separated, and although he had never been there before, the dog found out Lanercost's box from among all the others in the different yards at Pigburn, and an affecting meeting took place. "The fox which a too confident hostler would pitch against him, and the gentleman who would have another peep at Lanercost in the van as the horse was crossing the Mersey to Chester, did not forget this sentinel very easily, and his dog opponents seldom survived their engagements."¹

Lord George Bentinck, the "Lord George" referred to in connection with Lanercost's victory, well known as a sportsman and statesman, seems to have been a friend of Mr Ramsay, and about this time to have been hunting with the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire Hounds. He forms one of the group painted, probably about the year 1840, by Mr Benjamin Crombie, whose 'Modern Athenians' are so well known in book form. The scene of this picture is the inn at Broxburn, at which the members of the Hunt used to put in after hunting, and which was then kept by one Fraser,² who had been butler to the Lord Torphichen of the time. The figures, taking them from left to right, are, Professor Lizars, surgeon, brother of the engraver,

¹ 'Scott and Sebright,' *supra*, p. 192.

² Mr William Brand, Broxburn, states that the inn frequented by the members of the Hunt in 1840—the Harrow Inn—was kept by Mr Edward Mather. No doubt, however, more than one inn there had the Hunt's custom.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

Sir Alexander Gibson-Maitland of Cliftonhall, Mr John Wood, a Leith merchant, Lord George Bentinck — on near side of table, — Mr Ramsay, Mr John Tod, nick-named “Toddy Boy,” Mr Walter M’Culloch of Ardwall, Mr William Sharpe, Hoddam, Mr Inglis of Torsonce, the poet, Mr George Dunlop, nick-named “Gogar,” and Captain the Hon. James Sandilands—in doorway. On the wall hangs a card intimating that Mr Ramsay’s Hounds will meet on Monday, at Drumshorelan’ Moor; on Tuesday, at Torphichen Bridge; on Thursday, at Riccarton Wood; and on Saturday, at Broxburn.

Although Mr Ramsay may be looked upon as having been a resident proprietor, spending his money in the country hunted, it would seem that he was not, at this period, afforded the support which might naturally have been considered due to him. One proprietor appears to have objected to have his lands ridden over; another to have destroyed foxes and taken every means to spoil sport; while the farmers were not over warm in the good cause, and satisfactory walks for puppies were somewhat scarce. The season of 1837 was the last in which the Fife Hounds hunted Forfarshire, and Mr Ramsay, influenced no doubt by the state of matters then existing in his own country, in the following season, Scott’s last, took the hounds into that county for a time, hunting most probably from the kennels near the loch at Forfar, which the Fife Hounds had pre-



THE INN AT BROXBURN.

From Painting in the possession of Mr. Keith Ramsay Mailland, Edinburgh

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

viously occupied.¹ It was then that old Bedford, who was wont to contend with Rivers² for the honour of carrying home the fox's head, had a great day on his own account, notwithstanding the fact that his hunting career was drawing to an end. "One day, at Kincaldrum, a covert of Heaven knows how many hundred acres, they found a fox; but, as of course he did not break too soon, Scott's ear discovered that old Bedford was well tied to another; so leaving his brother veteran to his own devices, he pressed the pack's fox out, and got away. At night, old Bedford was missing, and no tidings, until going into the same country a few days after, a farmer came up and said 'You have a red and white hound worth his weight in gold; he forced that fox out of Kincaldrum after you left; was seen by many running him ten miles over the country, and killed him just by my place. I did all I could to get him but he went off.' Scott went away sorrowing. Old Bedford got on the road *home*, and made it out as far as Perth, when he was picked up and sent to the Kilgraston kennels, where Scott, visiting Hall, found him to his no small delight. Bedford is nine years old and *almost* blind; were he mine—I speak it under favour—he should not only live *all* his days until the stern huntsman

¹ Letter from Colonel Greenhill Gardyne to the author, dated October 3, 1904.

² Rivers (1830) by the Warwickshire Rocket (1824)—Violet.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

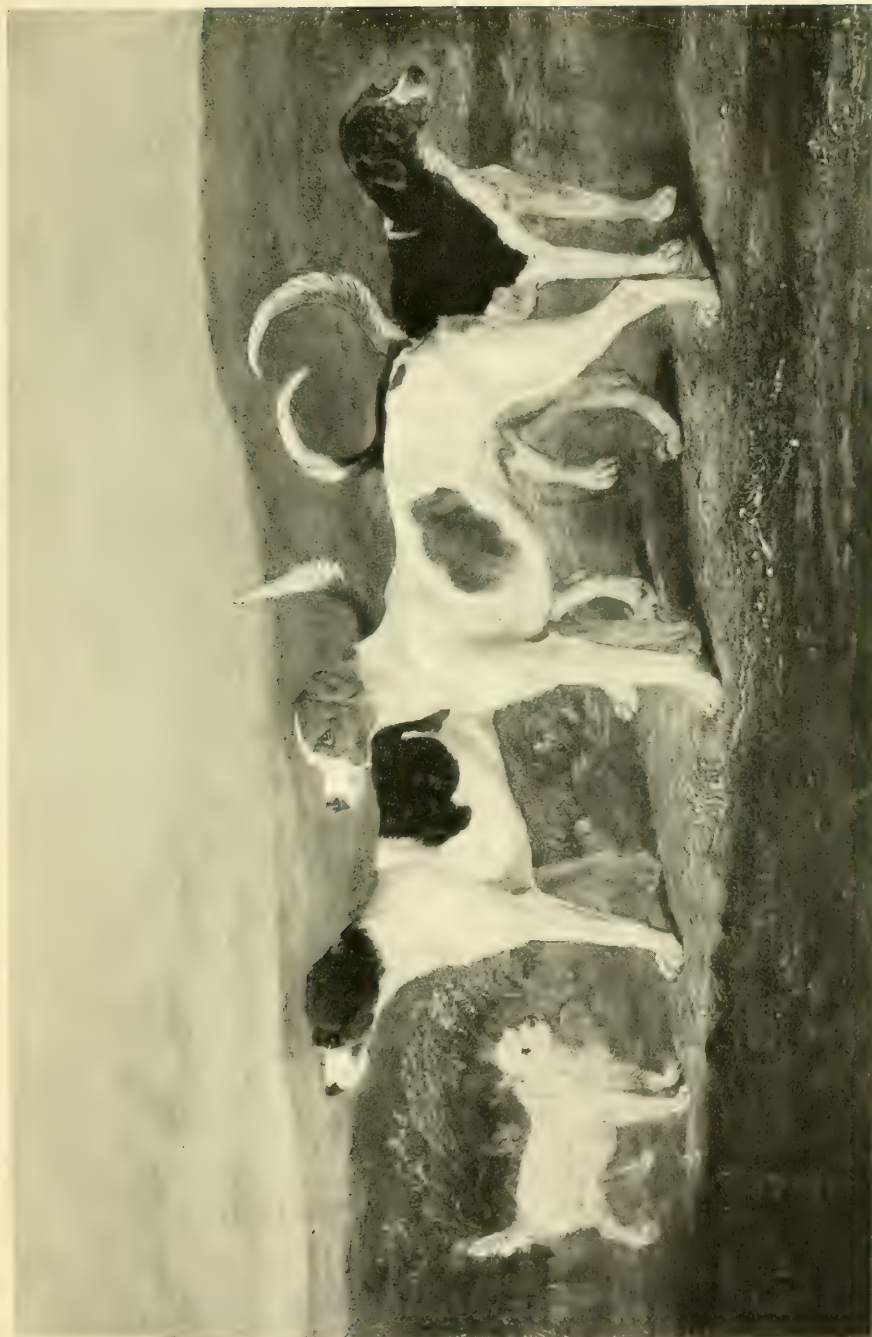
Time gave his who-whoop, but . . . should have a monument and an epitaph, and a better one than this, which must serve in the meantime—

‘ Who single-handed
Killed his fox,
Though blind and old
Right orthodox.’”¹

After the close of the season of 1840, during which, as well as the immediately preceding one, the hounds had again visited Forfarshire, Mr Ramsay gave up the home country entirely, and in the following winter hunted Forfarshire only; while the Fife Hounds, under an arrangement come to through Major Shairp, visited Linlithgowshire for about five weeks in the spring, when they were kennelled at Uphall. The Forfarshire country, which at this time was considered one of the best of those in the north, was an extensive one, and embraced much of Lord Panmure’s property, upon which were situated most of the favourite coverts. “From one end of the country to the other was fully eighty miles, and it is a precious memory with Tom [Rintoul] that one week they ‘hunted it down,’ and killed four brace.”² But before another summer had passed, the troubles at home had either ceased altogether or diminished very considerably, for in 1843 the hounds were again hunting the home country, and also the Carnwath country in Lanarkshire and Peeblesshire. Sport,

¹ ‘Sporting Magazine,’ August 1839.

² ‘Field and Fern’ (South), 1865, p. 54.



BEDFORD (1830).

From unfinished Painting in the possession of the Author.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

too, must have been as good as ever it had been, for Rintoul received from various hunting friends quite a succession of little gifts, presented, for the most part, as mementos of particularly good runs, or of days upon which he and his hounds had distinguished themselves. From Captain Peter Hay of Mugdrum there came a silver snuff-box (1843), and a silver cigar-case (1844); from Sir Alexander Maitland, a silver-mounted hunting-crop (1844); from Lord Valentia, a silver cup (1845); from Mr Ramsay, a silver hunting-horn (1846); and from the members of the Hunt, "as a mark of the sense they have long entertained of his merits as a huntsman," a silver tea-service (1846).¹ The most noteworthy of the runs recorded about this time are two which took place in the Carnwath country. The first of these occurred on the 17th of April 1843, when, meeting at Huntfield, about two miles to the north-west of Biggar, hounds immediately found a fox which, though twice headed, persevered in making his point. Away went the pack, racing ahead in a north-easterly direction as if for the distant covert of Penicuik, until at the end of an almost absolutely straight fourteen miles, accomplished in one hour and twenty minutes, with only one very trifling check, the fox could no longer stand up before them, and the pack, "led by the gallant Brusher,"² running from scent to view, killed him

¹ These articles are in the possession of Mrs Morton, Joppa.

² Brusher seems to have been a descendant of Bedford (1831).

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

in the open.¹ Captain Hay describes this as a "brilliant and first-rate run, *ultra* pace all the way,"² while the 'Sporting Magazine'³ bears that "considering the extreme severity of this extraordinary run," Rintoul was well with his hounds, that Messrs Finlay and Bowman were also fairly placed, and that one other horse of Mr Ramsay's stud enabled his rider to see the finish. The second of these runs, which, as to distance and time, is somewhat similar to the first, came just about a year later, on the 20th of April 1844. Newholm, near Dunsyre, on the borders of the counties of Lanark and Peebles, was the place of meeting, and hounds found directly on being thrown into covert, the fox breaking all but in view. Unfortunately, no details as to the line taken are forthcoming, but it would seem that owing to the severity of the pace, the fox was forced from one point after another, and that several parishes were run through; while the distance as the crow flies is stated to have been twelve miles at least, and as hounds ran, sixteen. "The pace was *tremendous*, the country undeniable, the *fences large*, and this gallant pack, headed by old Brusher, ran into their fox from scent to view, in the open, after going without a check—excepting a little cold-hunting over the

¹ 'Sporting Magazine,' June 1843.

² Inscription on silver snuff-box given by Captain Hay to Rintoul, in the possession of Mrs Morton, Joppa.

³ 'Sporting Magazine,' June 1843.

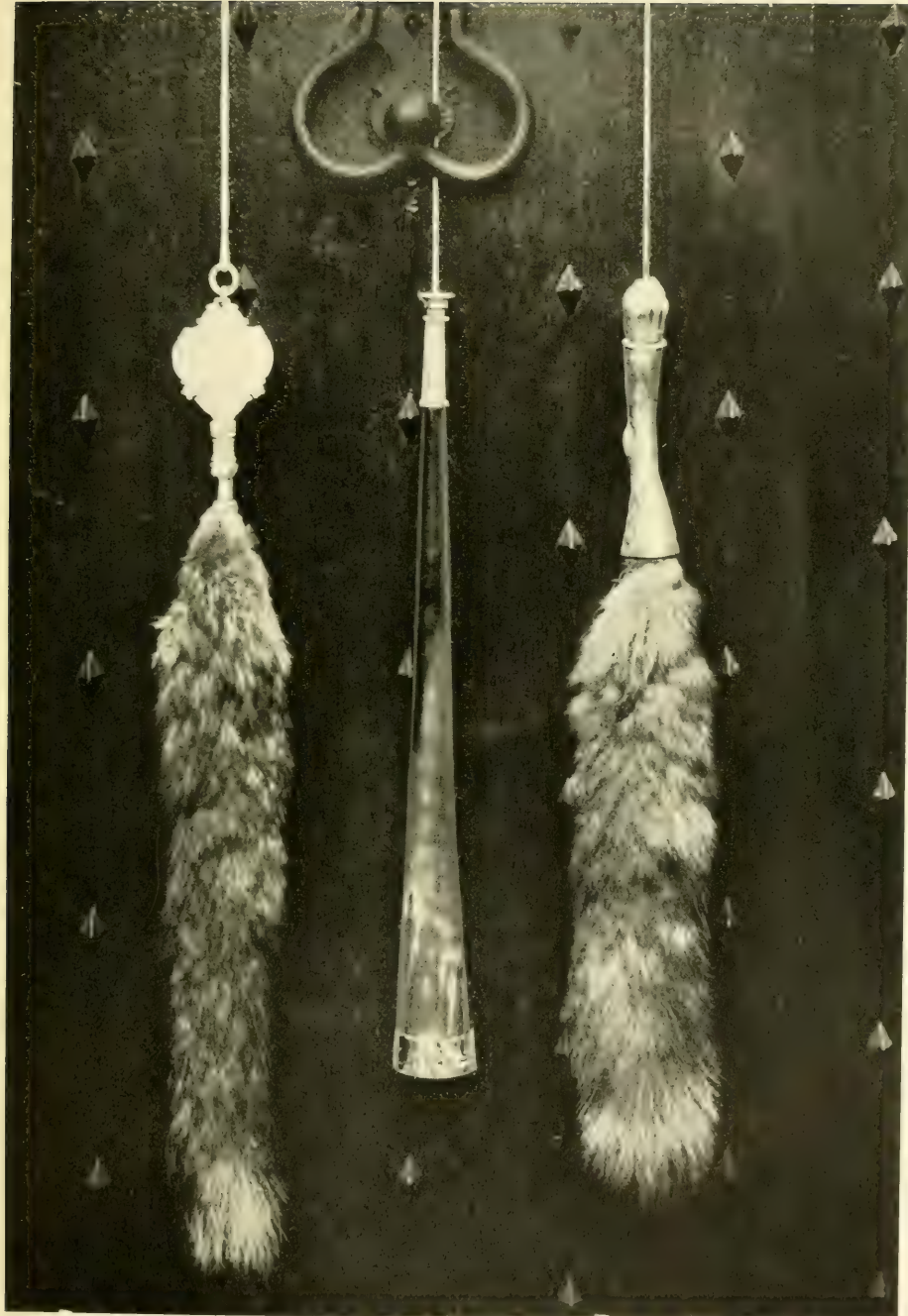


Photo by Auld, Edinburgh.

BRUSH OF FOX.
Killed 17th April 1843.

HUNTING HORN.
(*Vide p. 112.*)

BRUSH OF FOX.
Killed 20th April 1844.

In the possession of Lord Torphichen.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

ploughs at the end of the run—in one hour and twenty-five minutes: not a hound missing at the death. Of the select few who saw this *most brilliant day's sport*, I must mention Captain Hay upon his well-known horse Selim, who with Rintoul, the huntsman, on Rocket,¹ were never *headed*; Messrs G. Dunlop,² Annesley,³ Maitland,⁴ &c., all went well, not forgetting the sporting Professor,⁵ whose delight was unbounded.”⁶

The brushes of the foxes which provided these two capital runs are now at Calder House, and although nearly seventy years have elapsed since the day on which Rintoul handled them, their state of preservation is perfect. The brush of the Newholm fox was given by Mr Maitland, above mentioned, to Mr Ramsay's son,⁷ who at the time was only two months old, much in the same way as the old hunting-horn referred to at the beginning of this chapter, was presented to Mr Ramsay.

Notwithstanding the fact of his having bought a considerable number of hounds at the Cottesmore sale,⁸ in 1842, Mr Ramsay purchased Lord Kin-

¹ Rocket. *Ibid* p. 151. ² Mr George Dunlop, Gogar. ³ Lord Valentia.

⁴ Mr, afterwards Colonel, Keith Ramsay Maitland, Cameron Highlanders.

⁵ Probably Professor Lizars. ⁶ ‘Sporting Magazine,’ June 1844.

⁷ The inscription on the mounting of the brush is, “C. W. R. R., from K. R. M., Newholm, 20 April 1844.”

⁸ The Druid states that Mr Ramsay bought 17½ couples of hounds at the Cottesmore sale.—*Ibid* ‘Field and Fern,’ (South), 1865, p. 54. As a matter of fact, Mr Ramsay purchased 9 couples of entered hounds and 5 couples of unentered hounds, and in addition 6 couples of draft hounds sent in by the huntsman.—Letter from Messrs Tattersall to the author, 11th February 1910.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

tore's pack,¹ which was advertised to be sold² shortly after Lord Inverurie's death from an accident when hunting with the Pytchley in December 1843. It would seem, therefore, that Mr Ramsay was at this time increasing the number of hounds in the kennel, and the reason for his doing so probably lay in this, that he was now hunting, or about to hunt, a new tract of country, without relinquishing any part of that which he had previously overtaken. Lord Elcho having in 1843 agreed to hunt the Northumberland and Duns countries, the East Lothian district became vacant, and was, with the approval of the Duke of Buccleuch, taken up by Mr Ramsay, who in the same year obtained the Duke's permission, as far as his Grace was concerned, to draw all the coverts lying to the west of the road from Edinburgh to Linton, passing by Morningside between Comiston

¹ 'Sporting Magazine' and 'New Sporting Magazine,' March 1844.

² 'The New Sporting Magazine,' January 1844, contains this advertisement :—

TO BE SOLD BY PRIVATE BARGAIN.

A SMALL "CRY" of FOX-HOUNDS, bred with care, from some of the best blood in England, consisting of 22 Couples of Old Hounds, and three Couples of this year's Hounds.

Also, TWO or THREE First-rate WHIPPER-INS' HORSES.

A KENNEL HUNTSMAN, with an excellent character; likewise 1st and 2nd WHIPPER-INS, good hands, and excellent horsemen, and TWO KENNEL HACKS.

Besides the 25 Couples, there will be nearly Eight Couples of Jews, Gentiles, Turks, Infidels and Heretics, collected from different Kennels lately, the perquisite of the Huntsman,—would do well for the "Chasse au Cerf" or for any Vulpicide in an Unhunting Country.

Further particulars may be learned by application to William Skene, Kennel Huntsman, Keith Hall, N.B.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

and Morton Hall, by Lothian Hall, Boghall and Woodhouselee, as far as the Logan House water.¹ Four years later (1847), also, Mr Ramsay got leave from his Grace to draw the Penicuik coverts,² and when the Fife Hounds were sold to Sir Richard Sutton and went to the Quorn kennels, in 1848, he arranged to hunt the west of Fife district in place of the East Lothian country, which was then resigned.

It was probably about this time that the hounds had the fine run in Stirlingshire mentioned by The Druid,³ "from West Craigs beyond Bathgate, eighteen miles straight, and killed in a wash-house near Denny." Mr Forbes of Callendar, the present master of the Hurworth Hounds, says that, as far as he can remember, the fixture on this occasion was Armadale toll-bar, that hounds found at West Craigs, ran towards Armadale and back to West Craigs. Then they went away across the moors to Ellrig, ran on as if for the woods at Bonnymuir, and thence towards Larbert, eventually killing in a building rather nearer Castle Cary than Denny. Mr Forbes asked Rintoul if it was the finest run he had ever seen. Rintoul said "No"; he recollected two better—one over Tinto, when he rode the Rocket horse,⁴ and another from Hallyards, near Kirkliston.

¹ Papers at Dalkeith House.

² Ibid.

³ 'Field and Fern' (South), 1865, p. 55.

⁴ "For nine seasons the Rocket horse was Tom Rintoul's crack, and he rode him three times in one day over the Lead hills near Tinto, and killed three foxes."—*Ibid* 'Field and Fern' (South), 1865, p. 55.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

Mr W. D. Gillon having died in 1846, Wallhouse passed to his eldest son, the late Colonel Gillon, who was then about twenty-three years of age. In the following year Colonel Gillon began to hunt with considerable regularity, and from his diary¹ some interesting details may be gleaned. It alludes to the inconvenience in getting away from Calder wood caused by the Caledonian line to Carstairs, then newly formed, “*21st October [1847]—The Caledonian railway much sworn at and abused*”; to Mr Ramsay’s being in the field, “*30th October,—Mr Ramsay out and rode forward*”; to the hunting of the East Lothian country, “*8th November,—The hounds go to East Lothian till Tuesday 23rd*”; and to the practice of “capping,” “*20th December,—No kill to-day and no capping.*” The diary also records some good sport. It shows that on the 23rd of December, from a fixture at Polmont, hounds found in Callendar wood, ran west to Bonnymuir, and thence across a very heavy country, till they were whipped off at half-past two, after having traversed about eighteen miles, the pace being slow at first, but faster in the afternoon, when, with a threatening of frost, scent probably improved. And a short spell of hard weather appears to have followed, for the next entry records a good day with “a burning scent after the frost.”

“Monday, 3rd January [1848].—Met at Champfleurie gate—a very small field out. Drew all the coverts there blank.

¹ Diary in the possession of Mr Andrew Gillon, Edinburgh.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

We then went on to Riccarton—also blank. Found a strong fox at Cockleroi, ran him to Lochcote, then over the hill towards Riccarton. Hounds then took a southerly direction to the Byres, and from that right west to the covert above Bathgate. Skirting this, they went down to the east of Kirkton, crossed the Edinburgh road, and then made right south to Livingstone, where we lost him. This run, the best certainly this season, was the fastest thing I have ever seen, as we never but once drew bridle all through—horses and men knocked up. The distance run over must have been fourteen miles, fortunately over grass. The fencing all through was severe. ‘A burning scent after the frost.’”

Some description of the great run to Slipperfield, which took place in or about the year 1849, must not be omitted. It fell upon a Saturday—the 24th of the month—when the hounds met at Shieldhill, in Lanarkshire. Hitting the line of a travelling fox, they ran a ring round the young plantations on Quothquhan Law and swung south. Then, skirting Huntfield coverts, they went on to Edmonston, and through that to a covert at the foot of the Black Mount, up to which point, although the pace had been tremendous, hounds had run together in the closest order. Now they turned sharply to the left, and carried the line up the steep slope of the Black Mount, and right over its highest point; Mr Ramsay on Lambton lying nearest the pack, and he, Captain Balfour Ogilvie and Rintoul being the first over the hill by a long way. But the Black Mount was too much for many. Sir Alexander Maitland’s horse burst a

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

blood-vessel—he had been going brilliantly up to this time—and Mr Hay, Letham, got into grief and saw no more of the run. Once over the summit, hounds drove forward with renewed vigour to Garvald, where the field were stopped by the march fence—the horses being too much distressed to get over it without a considerable delay—and Major Woddrop, riding a young black mare named the Kitten, joined in, and went on alone with hounds to near Mendick. There Major Douglas, who had ridden through the whole of the run, overtook him, and hounds ran on over the moor opposite West Linton, turned to the left towards Slipperfield, and ran into their fox at the top of Slipperfield moor. The distance from point to point is stated to have been fourteen miles, and as hounds ran, twenty; the time, two hours and ten minutes; every hound up at the finish.¹ Sir William Maxwell was well-carried by a very promising young chestnut horse; Major Douglas was well placed in the latter part of the run, and so was Captain Falconar.²

In a former chapter, allusion has been made to the fact that during the period in which the Hunt has been in existence, the hounds have hunted no fewer than twelve counties, but it is even more remarkable that as many as ten

¹ Newspaper cutting in scrap-book in the possession of Mr H. Armour, Edinburgh.

² Captain Falconar of Carlowrie, father of Mr George Falconar-Stewart for many years honorary secretary.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

of these were hunted during Mr Ramsay's mastership alone, and that in the five seasons immediately preceding the relinquishment of East Lothian in 1848, the country overtaken was infinitely greater in extent than at any other time, either before or since. Although some idea of its dimensions may be gathered from the statement that in these few seasons it embraced, besides the shires of Linlithgow and Stirling, parts of Perthshire, Dumbartonshire, Mid-Lothian, East Lothian, Lanark, and Peebles, it is difficult at once to form an accurate conception of the magnitude of the area hunted over, without reference to a map of these counties. At this time, as in the days of Lord Elphinstone and Mr George Ramsay, the country was triangular in shape, although nearly four times as large, for it now stretched from Dunblane in Perthshire on the north, almost to Cockburnspath in Berwickshire on the south-east, and to Leadhills in the most southerly corner of Lanarkshire on the south, and must have consisted of an area of many hundred square miles. This much has been said concerning the extent of the country hunted by Mr Ramsay, with the view of bringing out more clearly than at first sight appears, the labour and responsibilities then connected with the mastership; for the greater the country, the greater the toil and expenditure involved. And while, no doubt, much of the detail of the arrangements connected with

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

the hunting of the country at this period devolved upon others, the responsibility and the burden of the cost rested mainly with the master.

And now the curtain must fall on this long act in which Mr Ramsay has played the principal part. "The bright name which his sire as a sportsman has gained," had become his by succession, and in his keeping had remained an inheritance untarnished, since for twenty years Mr Ramsay ruled the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire as a sportsman, maintaining the proudest traditions of the old Hunt, faithfully, liberally, and manfully. But a lifetime, scarcely greater than that allotted to Mr George Ramsay, was to be accorded to his son, and before the latter had completed his forty-first year, the country had lost its master, and Barnton its "Squire." Mr Ramsay's death took place at Barnton on the 15th of March 1850. "The sphere of his influence and position brought him into close contact with many and various classes of men, and his amiable disposition, gentle and courteous bearing, his cheerful manners, his kind and affectionate heart and liberal hand, endeared him to all. . . . He was beloved by every tenant on his own estates, . . . and in the counties of Mid-Lothian, West Lothian, Stirling and Lanark—the districts which were hunted by his pack of hounds—he was universally respected and esteemed by the farmers. . . . His numerous dependants regarded him more as a kind protector than as a master ;



MR W. R. RAMSAY OF BARNTON.

From Portrait in the possession of Mr Keith Ramsay Macland, Edinburgh.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

he was a devoted husband, a fond father, and a fast friend; . . . and there are few private individuals indeed who will be more widely, deeply, and justly lamented.”¹

“‘The Turf, the Chase, and the Road’ all drooped in Scotland when ‘Mr Ramsay and the Hounds’ ceased to be a toast in Mid-Lothian, when his Lanercost or Inheritor were not under cup orders for Ayr, and when his mail-coach team, with himself or his good friend from Ury in command, no longer stepped gaily down Leith Street towards cannie Aberdeen. He had his summons when he had barely lived out half his time, and only last autumn [1850] the crape on the Caledonian Hunt scarlet, and the words of sorrow to his memory, told that one still more radiant element was wanting in the great gathering of Scottish sportsmen.”²

¹ ‘Caledonian Mercury,’ 18th March 1850.

² ‘Scott and Sebright,’ by The Druid, 1862, p. 181.

CHAPTER VI.

THE REGENCY AND THE YOUNG SQUIRE OF BARNTON.

1850-1866.

As a tribute of respect to the memory of Mr Ramsay, the hounds were not taken into the field during the short part of the season which remained after his death, and on the lapse of a fitting interval Mrs Ramsay received an assurance of the sympathy felt with her by those then connected with the Hunt. Subsequent events indicate that she was now the owner of the pack, and consequently was in a position to dispose of it as she chose. But any alteration in the arrangement which had previously existed did not commend itself to her, and most generously she resolved that the establishment should be conducted upon the same footing as it had been during her husband's lifetime. Thus she probably carried out to the full what would doubtless have been his wishes, without in any way lessening the possibility which she may then have had in view,



1828.

KENNETH MACLEAY, R.S.A.

THE HON. MRS W. R. RAMSAY.

From Miniature in the possession of Lord Forphichen.

HISTORY OF THE L. & S. HUNT

of her son's eventually filling the position which both his father and grandfather had already occupied. In so disposing, Mrs Ramsay, who could not well have undertaken the entire management of the establishment, delegated her authority in the field to her brother Captain Sandilands and, owing to his frequent absence, to Captain Fleeming also.¹

Captain Sandilands, who was the youngest son of the tenth Lord Torphichen, was born on the 21st of October 1821, and as already shown, had hunted with the pack during Mr Ramsay's mastership. At this time, however, he was with his regiment, the 8th Hussars, which he had joined in the year 1839, and the duties connected with the mastership therefore fell to Captain Fleeming. The latter, who was born on the 11th of December 1819, and had joined the 71st Highland Light Infantry, succeeded to the estate of Cumbernauld in Dumbartonshire on the death of his father, Admiral Charles Elphinstone-Fleeming, in 1840. After his succession he served with the Inniskilling Dragoons, and the 17th Lancers, but leaving the army in the spring of 1850 now began, as his uncle the twelfth Lord Elphinstone had done nearly half a century before, to undertake the active part of the management.

Rintoul continued to occupy the huntsman's place, and, although he was about fifty years of age and had seen no less than twenty-four seasons'

¹ *Vide* Appendix III.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

service with the pack, was still capable of showing sport. On the 19th of November the hounds met at Calder House, and ran for over an hour and forty minutes. This much is recorded on one of the shoes of Jack Sheppard, which forms an ornament in the library at Sauchie, and which besides giving this information, bears that the horse—he had probably distinguished himself that day—was foaled in 1840 and died in 1851. On the 16th of the following month of January there occurred a run in Linlithgowshire which, taken as a whole, it would be difficult to find an equal to on that side of the country, for hounds found by the Almond and finished by the Avon, after having traversed nearly the entire breadth of the county. Calder House was again the place of meeting, but the day being wild and stormy,—it was blowing a hurricane, with rain and sleet from the south-west—Calder wood and all the high-lying coverts in the adjoining district were drawn blank. In the afternoon Rintoul threw his hounds into the then famous gorse covert of Elliston,¹ which had already that season afforded two good runs. The wind was still strong, but the weather had improved, and after the pack had been in covert for a short time, first one hound spoke and then another, and in a few minutes every hound was throwing its tongue. The fox had broken to the west, and hounds hunted his line slowly, but with steadiness

¹ Now spelt Illiston.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

and perseverance, across the open fields lying between Drumshoreland and the Almond. Nevertheless they checked and checked again, and Rintoul had to cast them more than once before they finally hit off the line across the Uphall and Midcalder road, and settled down to run northwards over the grass to Houstoun wood. Thence, with an improving scent, they ran up to the Edinburgh and Glasgow turnpike road, and crossing it near Dechmont, went on over West Binny, pointing for Riccarton. They were now able to press their fox, and the pace, which had been so slow at first, became such that the few who had the good fortune to see this run had to do all in their power to live within sight of the pack, which, swinging left-handed, drove forward across the high grounds of Bangour and, again bearing northwards, sped over the old rough grass by Tartraven and Wairdlaw into B'ormie. The scent had become breast-high, and silently as hounds had probably run in the open for the last mile or two, the crash with which they entered that covert, and the way in which the rocky head of Cockleroi must have seemed to rattle and shake as it re-echoed the crash, can be better imagined than described. But in B'ormie they dwelt not a moment, and taking the line right through it, away they went to Bowdenhill, the open earths on the northern face of which received the fox, now no doubt arched in back, drooping as to brush, and much bedraggled, just in front of

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

them.¹ The point appears to be eight and a half miles, while the distance covered was probably not less than from twelve to fifteen.

At the end of the season Rintoul left. Some years later he became huntsman to the Stirlingshire harriers, a pack which was established at Laurieston about the year 1857, but was afterwards converted into or superseded by the Laurieston fox-hounds. Later still, in the first season of Colonel Gillon's mastership (1866), he was employed as stud-groom in the Hunt stables;² and when eventually he retired from service he took a house in Linlithgow, which he occupied up to the time of his death. In his prime he showed very considerable talent as a huntsman, and the late Colonel Anstruther Thomson, in speaking of him in that capacity, is reported to have said that there were then very few in England and none in Scotland like him; an encomium which Mr Forbes of Callendar, who early in life hunted with him, thoroughly endorses. For Mr Ramsay, under whom he had served first as whipper-in and afterwards as huntsman, Rintoul, to the last, had the greatest admiration and regard; and after death had separated master and servant, the latter was ever ready to rebuke any one who, in his hearing, might have ventured to say a word disrespectful to Mr

¹ 'Edinburgh Evening Courant,' 23rd January 1851.

² List of Invitations to Gamekeepers' and Earths-stoppers' Dinner, 17th October 1866, among Hunt papers in the custody of Messrs Glen & Henderson, Linlithgow.



THOMAS RINTOUL.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

Ramsay's memory. Nor did Rintoul's fondness for hounds leave him sooner than his regard for his master, since even after he had given up hunting, whenever Linlithgow chanced to be the fixture, he was sure to be there; and when the pack moved off to draw and he was unable to follow, the tears would run down his weather-beaten cheek as they would down that of a child deprived of its favourite toy. When the end came,—he died on the 20th of July 1875,¹—they buried him close by the old church of Linlithgow, and not very far from the spot where rest the remains of George Knight.

During the two seasons which immediately followed Rintoul's retirement, Captain Fleeming hunted the hounds himself. The entry of 1851 included a hound named Blossom,² which had been walked by Mr James Forrester, one of his tenants at Cumbernauld. One night in the spring of that year, Major Orr of Dullater, a neighbouring proprietor, had eighteen sheep destroyed by dogs, and Blossom, then about seven months old, was, it is stated, identified as one of the offenders. Her accredited part in this occurrence gave rise to a lengthy, and probably not very inexpensive, litigation, for, in the first place, Major Orr brought an action before the Sheriff-substitute of Dumbartonshire against Captain Fleeming and Mr Forrester for the value of the sheep, and this

¹ Gravestone in Linlithgow old churchyard.

² Blossom by Bedford—Graceful.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

having been decided in his favour, the case was taken to the Court of Session. There the Sheriff-substitute's decision was adhered to, but Captain Fleeming and Mr Forrester did not allow the matter to rest, and they presented an appeal to the House of Lords, which resulted in the original decision being reversed. When Captain Fleeming heard of the final judgment, he is stated to have said with great glee, "Thank God, there's no appeal from the House of Lords." The reports¹ of the case are not devoid of interest, and contain passages tinged, from a hunting point of view, with a certain amount of drollery. "This, the fox-hound, is a description of dog which requires a great deal of training to make it run after foxes alone. In its untrained state no dog of this sort will prefer running after a fox; its natural tendency is rather to run after a sheep, and that for the very good reason that a sheep is not only easier caught, but is better worth catching." And it is remarkable that a creature so simple, and not infrequently so shy, as a fox-hound puppy should have been the means of raising a question in law requiring for its settlement the intervention of no less than three Courts of Justice, including the highest tribunal in the United Kingdom, "the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament assembled."

At this period the subscription was a small one.

¹ *Orr v. Fleeming and Forrester*: Court of Session Cases, 5th March 1853, 15 D. 486; House of Lords Cases, 8th March 1855, 2 Macqueen 14.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

This is indicated by the following list¹ which, although possibly incomplete, is none the less interesting as giving the names of some, if not all, of those who then supported the Hunt pecuniarily, and as showing that the Hunt Club extended a helping hand:—

L. & S. HUNT.

SEASON 1853-1854.

Subscribers.

Mr Forbes	£150
Lord Hopetoun	100
Mr Gillon	100
Old Hunt ²	25
Sir Alexander G. Maitland	25
Mr Hope Vere	25
Lord Kinnaird	20
Mr M'Farlan	20
Major Henderson	10
	<hr/>
	£475

In the year 1853, Captain Fleeming, who evidently had begun to find that hunting hounds and acting as master was more than he could accomplish satisfactorily, engaged a professional huntsman, William Potts,³ who had been with the Fife Hounds under Lord Rosslyn during the season of 1850, and afterwards with Lord Elcho.

¹ List of subscribers in the handwriting of Mr John Clapperton, Edinburgh, in scrap-book in the possession of Mr H. Armour, Edinburgh.

² The Hunt Club.

³ 'The Field,' 29th December 1877.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

Potts remained with the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire pack for three seasons, and therefore saw a change in the management, for in the autumn of 1855 Captain Fleeming was appointed to the command of the 2nd Regiment of Light Dragoons in the British German Legion, which had been raised about a year after the Crimean War broke out,¹ and the charge devolved on his fellow-master. Although he did not, so far as is known, formally resign office on receiving this appointment, he does not appear to have taken any part in the management afterwards; and it may be assumed that his mastership, which was characterised by some good sport, but which, like many others, was not altogether free from trouble, ended at this period. About five years later, on the death of his cousin, the thirteenth Lord Elphinstone, he succeeded to the peerage; but he did not hold it long, for his death occurred on the 13th of the following month of January, when the title passed to his kinsman, Captain William Buller Fullerton Elphinstone, the father of the present and sixteenth Lord Elphinstone.² When hunting near West Linton on one occasion, it was suggested to Captain Fleeming that he might say a few polite words to the minister there, who, in those days, had some very good coverts. To this he readily assented, and while hounds were drawing, took the opportunity of making himself agreeable.

¹ War was declared in March 1854.

² 'Elphinstone Family Book,' by Sir William Fraser, vol. i. p. 307.



CAPTAIN JOHN ELPHINSTONE-FLEEMING.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

Hardly had salutations been exchanged, however, before someone rode up and told him that the hounds had found. After listening for a moment, he said, "So they have—running like hell, too," and then galloped off, leaving the minister, one of the meekest and mildest of old gentlemen, on his doorstep, very much astonished.

Although Captain Sandilands had left his regiment in the end of the year 1851, he had hitherto allowed the greater part if not the whole of the detail connected with the management to rest with Captain Fleeming. Now, however, he began to devote all his energy to the hunting of the country,¹ and in the ten seasons which followed, proved himself one of the best and most popular of masters. Before the first of these seasons had come to an end he had ample evidence of the high regard in which he was then already held, for on the 11th of April 1856, he was the guest of the gentlemen connected with the district at a dinner given by them in his honour at the Star and Garter hotel, Linlithgow, when the party numbered from seventy to eighty. The chairman, Major Shairp of Houstoun, proposed the health of "The Master of the Hounds," which was received with the greatest enthusiasm. "The fond feeling evinced through the whole of the proceedings must have been very gratifying to Captain Sandilands, as affording an earnest of his own popularity, and of a continuance

¹ Copy correspondence in scrap-book which belonged to Captain Sandilands, in the possession of Lord Torphichen.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

of the support which has always been approved to these hounds.”¹

In the spring of the year 1857 there arose the important question whether the hounds belonged to the country or were the property of the Barn-ton family. The matter, which had the consideration of many of the landed proprietors in the two counties, was brought to a point by the late Colonel Gillon of Wallhouse who, while evidently holding a strong conviction that the pack was not private property, seems to have been influenced only by a desire, in the interests of the Hunt, to have the question amicably settled. The letters which passed between Colonel Gillon, Captain Sandilands, and Mrs Ramsay on the subject, are printed as an Appendix² and speak for themselves, but reference may be made to what has already been said in regard to the possibility of Mr Ramsay having purchased the hounds when he accepted the mastership in 1830.³ If Colonel Gillon carried out his intention of bringing the matter before the proprietors and subscribers, in the manner indicated in the correspondence, it would seem that nothing came of his having done so, and that the position taken up by Mrs Ramsay was ultimately acquiesced in.

About this time some changes took place in regard to the kennels. In 1855 Captain Sandilands had commenced the building of new kennels

¹ ‘Edinburgh Evening Courant,’ 17th April 1856.

² *Vide* Appendix III.

³ *Vide* p. 105 *et seq.*

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

at Kersewell in the Carnwath country, and in the following year these were occupied by the pack. Beyond lodging and feeding rooms for the hounds, and a house for the huntsman, there was little or no accommodation, and the whippers-in and the horses had to be quartered at one of the inns in the village of Carnwath. In 1857 the Laurieston kennels were given up, and the present kennels at Golfhall, which had been rebuilt or repaired, came to be used in their place. In the Hunt staff also, there were many and rapid changes.¹ Potts left in 1856, and was succeeded by Robert Purslow, the whippers-in being Henry Nason and Thomas Marlow. In the following year Nason took Purslow's place as huntsman, while C. Roberts and W. Shore turned hounds to him. But Nason, like Purslow, remained in office for one season only, and in 1858 was relieved by J. Jones, to whom James Stracey acted as first whipper-in.

Probably none of the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire Hunt servants has risen to greater distinction in his calling than William Shore. Born at Hamilton in 1832, his father being at that time gamekeeper to the Duke of Hamilton, Shore began his hunting life with the pack under Purslow in the summer of 1857, and after filling the post of whipper-in at Golfhall for three seasons, went to Brocklesby where, for other three, he occupied a similar position under the third Tom

¹ 'New Sporting Magazine,' June and July 1858, and 'The Field,' 29th December 1877.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

Smith. In 1863 he returned to Scotland and commenced his long term of service—thirty-nine seasons—as huntsman to the Duke of Buccleuch's Hounds, his retirement only taking place in the spring of the year 1902. During this last period Shore proved himself an able huntsman in field and in kennel, and also showed himself capable of serious responsibility, for besides the charge of the pack, the financial management of the hunting establishment practically rested with him.¹ His labours, however, were duly recognised, and towards the close of the season of 1897, at a dinner which was given to him at Kelso, when some two hundred noblemen and gentlemen from all parts of the country were present, he received very substantial testimony of the esteem and good-will of his many friends. Much valuable help in connection with these pages has been derived from him, and this has been kindly and most ungrudgingly given. But between the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire country and Shore there exists a double bond of union, for in addition to its having been the scene of his first hunting days, it was the home of his boyhood, his father having become game-keeper to Mr Ramsay of Barnton in the year 1835. And of his early days at Binny cottage² and at Barnton, whither his father moved in 1841, and of the old Hunt and those then connected with it, Shore has many pleasant memories which will not readily be effaced.

¹ *Ide* 'Kelso Mail,' 16th March 1898.

² Now Craigbinning.



STEWART WATSON.

A MEET AT BARNTON.

From Painting in the possession of Mr John Mauch, Glenmarie, Rathgate.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

In 1858, Stewart Watson appears to have finished his picture, "A Meet at Barnton," containing the portraits of the master, the Hunt servants, and many of those then hunting with the pack. There is no key to this picture, but the following particulars¹ may to some extent supply the deficiency. In the centre, approaching the hounds, is Captain Sandilands, and on his right hand, Purslow the huntsman (1856). Facing Captain Sandilands and Purslow are Nason and Marlow the whippers-in (1856), the former being the nearer to the pack. The boy in mufti is Mr Charles Ramsay "the Young Squire" of Barnton. Behind the pack stands Mr Waldron Hill, who for many years kept a pack of otter-hounds at Murrayfield near Edinburgh, and who never rode to, but always ran with, hounds. Beyond him, on a grey horse, is Mr John Orr, Glasgow, one of the many supporters which the Hunt then had in the west of Scotland. Between Mr Hill and the huntsman is Shore's father who, besides being gamekeeper at Barnton, acted as earths-stopper to the Hunt. Immediately behind the huntsman is Mr J. H. Holdsworth. In the background, beyond Captain Sandilands, is Mr C. M. Barstow, and beyond him again Mr T. E. O. Horne, afterwards honorary secretary for a number of years. On foot, resting his arm on the withers of his horse, is Mr George Dunlop, Gogar, and beyond him, on a

¹ These particulars, although believed to be correct, are not to be relied upon implicitly.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

grey horse, Mr Thomas Drybrough. In the foreground, turning in his saddle, is Captain Hankey, who lived at Middleton near Uphall, and on his right are Colonel Gillon of Wallhouse, mounted on his famous white horse Potiphar, and Mrs Gillon. In the background, beyond Colonel Gillon, is Major Norman Shairp of Houstoun, on a white pony, and in front of him his son, Major Thomas Shairp. On a grey horse beyond Mrs Gillon is Mr Armour, Glasgow, and on the extreme right of the picture, Mr Redfern, who then lived at Polkemmet.

Jones and Stracey who, as already indicated, had come as huntsman and first whipper-in respectively in 1858, had previously served together in the Old Berks country under Mr Morrell; in Warwickshire; and in the Old Burton country under Lord Henry Bentinck. In 1860 Jones re-entered Lord Henry's service,¹ and Stracey was promoted to the huntsman's place, while Trueman Tuff was engaged as first whipper-in. Although there are almost no records of the sport which took place during the first five seasons of the active part of Captain Sandilands' mastership,²

¹ 'New Sporting Magazine,' August 1861.

² On a county atlas which belonged to the late Mr T. E. O. Horne, now in the possession of his son, Mr Thomas Horne, Edinburgh, there are marked the lines of two good runs which took place in the year 1856—one on the 9th of February, from Philpstoun by Hawthornsyke, Blackness, Abercorn, Hopetoun, Society, Crawstane, and Duddingston to Dundas; and the other on the 16th of the same month, from near Uphall, by Houstoun House, Knightsridge, Little Dechmont, Drumcross, Bangour, North Mains of Tartraven, and Beecraigs to Longmuir.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

many good runs are chronicled subsequent to the date of Stracey's promotion. In his second season, on the 5th of December 1861, the small field which met hounds at Kinneil enjoyed a run of one hour and forty minutes, interrupted only by two trifling checks. A quick find formed the prelude to a fast burst from Kinneil wood to Tod's mill, from which, after crossing the Avon, hounds carried the line to the Haining. Leaving that covert behind them, they swam the Union canal, and passing through the grounds of Parkhall, reached Polmont station, where a short check occurred—the time up to this point being thirty-five minutes. When the line was recovered, they swung left-handed, and skirting Maddiston, ran on by Muir-avonside to Woodcockdale cottage, close to which they recrossed the Avon. Thence they continued by Belsyde, Williamsraig, and Cockleroi to Hill-house quarries, from which they turned in the direction first of Beecraigs, and then of Champ-fleurie. Pressing their fox, however, and forcing him from his point, they ran him almost into the town of Linlithgow, where, "getting no shelter even in the Poorhouse," and failing in his leap at a low wall, he was caught and broken up in the grounds of Mr Adie's house above Linlithgow railway station.¹ In the following season, on the 2nd of December (1862), hounds met at Drum-shoreland. Finding at once on being thrown into

¹ Newspaper cutting in scrap-book which belonged to the late Colonel Gillon, in the possession of Mr Andrew Gillon, Edinburgh.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

covert at Pumpherston, they ran through Houstoun wood and across the railway to the Edinburgh and Glasgow road, where they checked momentarily. But Stracey put them right, and crossing the farm-road south of Easter Bangour farmhouse, they ran hard northwards over the stiff but open country between Riccarton and Binny, eventually, "after traversing much country," marking their fox to ground in a rabbit-burrow at Champfleurie, from which he was taken and killed.¹ A fortnight later, on the 16th, the fixture at Carriden, then the residence of Admiral Hope, was largely attended,—the field including the Earl of Morton, Lord Aberdour, Sir Frederick Graham, and "the Young Squire" of Barnton. Hounds found at the east end of the covert on the seashore, and took their fox by the back of the house and the stables down the approach. Crossing the public road, they ran almost mute to Walton farm, turned sharply to the left, and entering the Binns park, streamed over the old grass to the laurels beneath the tower. The thirty minutes up to this point had been very fast, and happy were those who had been able to live with the pack. Thence leading hounds carried the line on into Hopetoun, and when the body of the pack was got forward, the hunt continued to Craigtonhill, where Stracey had the satisfaction of handling his fox.² Again

¹ Newspaper cutting in scrap-book which belonged to the late Colonel Gillon, in the possession of Mr Andrew Gillon, Edinburgh.

² Ibid.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

on the 20th of the month, with Torphichen bridge as the place of meeting, hounds raced after their fox from a young covert near Craigend in Stirlingshire, to Parkhall, swung right-handed through Vellore, and ran on to Muiravonside. Crossing the Avon at Carribber, they continued through Lochcote, over Simpson's hill, through Cathlaw, and into Cairnpapple, up to which point they were literally unattended, for the Hunt servants and the field had been unable to get away with them when they first broke. Now, however, a few riders who had struggled on, joined in just in time to see them emerge on the south side of the covert, and go away over Johnston's hill to Ballencrieff Mains. Swinging left-handed, and crossing the Bathgate and Torphichen road a little to the north of the Crinkle Brig, they ran the low lands of Hilderston and Broompark to the Moss plantation below Wallhouse, turned through Wallhouse park, and traversing Wallhouse craigs, regained Cairnpapple, where the chase was abandoned,—hounds having run continuously for about three hours, and covered a great extent of stiff country.¹

These few instances may suffice to show that the sport enjoyed at this time was good, and while no doubt a share of the credit was due to the huntsman, the greater part of it must be accorded to the master. For Captain Sandilands

¹ Newspaper cutting in scrap-book which belonged to the late Colonel Gillon, in the possession of Mr Andrew Gillon, Edinburgh.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

had not spared himself in his endeavours to improve the condition of the pack under his charge, and having turned to Brocklesby, to Berkeley, and also to Belvoir for this purpose, could now boast of having in kennel an efficient pack of hounds possessing much of the best blood in England.

“The strength of the kennel comes from the Yarborough and Fitzhardinge drafts, of which some ten couple have been sent from England for four seasons past. The Yarborough dogs and the Fitzhardinge bitches have done them most service; and Bedford¹ and Auditor among the former, and Bertha² and Songstress³ among the latter have been the mainstay. The Fitzhardinge (late Mr Morrell’s) Bajazets have ‘proved themselves good workers with fine constitutions’; and the old dog⁴ was put away in his eleventh season at the kennels, which are at Golfhall, five miles from Edinburgh. The Cromwell nose, which helped Harry Ayris⁵ over many a dry fallow, also bids fair to be perpetuated in his son Waterloo.⁶ In his very first season

¹ Bedford (1861) by Lord Yarborough’s Blucher (1856)—his Harriet (1857).

² Bertha (1860) by Sir Maurice Berkeley’s Bondsman (1855)—his Ada (1856).

³ Songstress (1860) by Sir Richard Sutton’s Bajazet (1854)—Sir M. Berkeley’s Susan (1857).

⁴ Sir Richard Sutton’s Bajazet by Mr Lumley’s Royster (1848)—Sir Richard’s Barbara (1851).

⁵ The Berkeley huntsman.

⁶ Waterloo (1862) by Lord Fitzhardinge’s Cromwell (1855)—his Woodbine (1859).

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

he was the only one that would speak to it through a dry fir planting, in a capital thing of fifteen miles straight from Macbie, in fact '*such a nipper that it could never have been one fox!*'"¹

No account of the run from Macbie is forthcoming, and it is only through the kindness of Colonel Babington, formerly master of the Fife Hounds, that any description of another famous run which took place about this time can be given. The following is Colonel Babington's account,² written from memory about forty years afterwards:—

“We met at or near Currie station, and found at Malleny. Fife was represented by myself, Captain Moubray, and Mr Cunningham of Dalachy, from whom I had purchased the horse I was riding that day. After running for a mile or so in the direction of Edinburgh with a capital scent, the hounds turned direct for the Pentlands. Here trouble began for the riders, for the higher we got the worse became the ground—full of swamps and bogs. Cunningham lost three shoes. Fortunately there were no fences except a few ragged walls, for it was all we could do to keep the hounds in sight. After crossing the summit of the hill they bent somewhat to the right, but turning again in a kind of half circle, raced down to the low ground, and caught their fox in the water of the Esk at Dalkeith, in the Duke of Buccleuch's grounds.

¹ 'Field and Fern' (South), by The Druid, 1865, p. 58.

² In the possession of the author.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

Captain Sandilands, who had no money in his pocket, borrowed a sovereign from me for the Duke's keeper. I think every hound ran up, for I rode home with the pack and did not hear any were missing. This is a very imperfect account of one of the finest runs I ever saw."¹

While some idea of the area hunted about this time may have been formed from the foregoing descriptions of runs, a more comprehensive one will be derived from the account of the country given by "The Druid," whose faculty of collecting and recounting information is well known, and whose works are a never-failing source of interest and pleasure.

"East to west, from Corstorphine hill to Lee Castle, the country runs about forty miles. The Carnwath covers are all fir plantations on the hills, and the best of them belong to the Earl of Home at Stonehill, near the Tinto boundary. The covers are very middling, the fir plantations are scarce and grown out, and there are very few gorses. The best are round Wallhouse, nice and dry fir plantings on the side of a hill, with heather and rock. Near Wallhouse the country is generally old grass, and mostly plough near home. The home country is not spoilt by wire, which is a perfect pest in Carnwath without the alleviation of telegraph-posts to the hunting-gates, as in the

¹ The point, according to measurement on the Ordnance Survey map, is fully ten miles.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

Buccleuch country. In the Dechmont country, about nine miles from the kennels, the ground is sound and good, and all on old grass. The crack gorse of the country is Riccarton hill, and Champfleurie laurels have had a great repute. . . . Macbie hill is a great rendezvous for old Peeblesshire foxes, which go back at the lambing time, and generally faster than they come. Morton covert is a capital cover, about three miles from Midcalder, and gives many a fine run over the Cairn hill. It is almost always a sure find, and the fox is as surely a stout one. There is another famous whin half-way between Uphall and Midcalder, whose owner, Mr Peter M'Lagan, is a most staunch game-preserved. Houstoun gorse was also a favourite find in the late Mr Ramsay's time, but now, alas! it is almost a desert. There are miles of moss both about Cairn hill and in the Carnwath country, and a huntsman has to '*pick and creep and screw*' to keep near his hounds at all, and even when Stracey is on North Briton, he is often in sad tribulation. In fact it is a regular choker over such a country, and the hounds do it pretty much by themselves. As Stracey graphically puts it, 'They have a turn at the Pentland hills from Malleny, and face the hills up wind a mile as hard as they can rattle; then they sink the wind; they never care which way the wind blows, and I'm blowed if you can tell what to do with them, it would puzzle mortal

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

man, up hills four or five miles from the bottom, and you tearing after them—that's the way they work you, and so they nail us.'"¹

As season succeeded season, Captain Sandilands' popularity increased. His courtesy and straightforward bearing had secured for him the support of the landowners, and the goodwill, and even the affection, of the farmers; and his gentle and kindly conduct towards his field, coupled with a determination to show sport, under *all* circumstances, called forth the esteem of every one who hunted with him. On the 26th of April 1861, he was the guest of the proprietors, tenantry, and supporters of the Hunt, at a public dinner in the Star and Garter hotel, Linlithgow, given with the view of expressing their sense of "the able and efficient manner in which he has discharged his duties as master of the hounds." Colonel Gillon acted as chairman, and among those present were Colonel Aitchison, Mr C. M. Barstow, Dr Chirnside, Blackburn House, Mr Dudgeon, Almondhill, Captain Hankey, Mr Waldron Hill, Sir Alexander Gibson-Maitland, Mr James Marr of Alderstone, Major Shairp, Mr Wallace of Auchinvole, and Mr W. M. Wardrop.² About four years later, on the 21st of April 1865, he was similarly honoured, being entertained to dinner in the Lockhart Arms inn, Carnwath, and there

¹ 'Field and Fern' (South), 1865, pp. 56, 57.

² 'Edinburgh Evening Courant,' 30th April 1861.



CAPTAIN THE HON. JAMES SANDILANDS.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

presented with tokens of the kindly feeling which the sportsmen in the Carnwath district, and others in Edinburgh and its neighbourhood, bore towards him.¹ This dinner and presentation formed one of the last events connected with his mastership, for his retirement in favour of his nephew, Mr Charles Ramsay, took place at the close of the season of 1864. Now that he had kept his last fixture in the hunting field, and had seen his hounds in kennel for the last time, perhaps he may have experienced a feeling of regret that the days of his regency, with their triumphs and disappointments, troubles and joys, were at an end. But however this may have been, it is certain that he must then have possessed the gratifying knowledge that he had conscientiously discharged the duties entrusted to him, that his reign had been a good one, and that the affairs of the Hunt would be handed over by him to his successor in a satisfactory state. After the close of the next season, during which Mr Charles Ramsay was master, he gave up hunting entirely, but when he died on the 29th of April 1902, in his eighty-first year,² the Hunt did not omit to pay a last mark of respect to the memory of its former master—the huntsman and whippers-in attending his funeral service at Midcalder in hunting costume.

¹ Newspaper cutting in scrap-book which belonged to Captain Sandilands, in the possession of Lord Torphichen.

² 'The Scotsman,' 3rd May 1902.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

On the 22nd of the month of February immediately preceding Captain Sandilands' retirement, Mr Charles Ramsay attained majority, and Barnton was the scene of much rejoicing and festivity. In celebration of the event, a ball, to which the friends of the family were invited, was given on the evening of the 21st,—a ballroom being specially built for the occasion on the lawn to the east of the house. On the following day there was a dinner to the tenants on the properties of Barnton, Sauchie, and Bannockburn, succeeded in the evening by another ball; while the whole festivities, which were spread over several days, terminated with the entertainment of the Hunt servants and the people employed on the estate.¹ Although it had been understood generally that Mr Ramsay would assume the mastership on coming of age, no definite arrangement in regard to the matter was made until the 31st of March (1865), when, at a meeting held at Linlithgow, he intimated that he was willing to hunt the country, and that, while he expected a subscription of £1000, he would trust, as far as the next season was concerned, to get the best support he could. At this meeting a committee was formed for the purpose of raising subscriptions. It consisted of seven members,—two for Linlithgowshire, Major Thomas Shairp and Colonel Gillon; three for Stirlingshire, Sir W. Bruce, Sir Molyneux Nepean, and Mr Walker; and

¹ 'Edinburgh Evening Courant,' 22nd February 1865.



BARTON HOUSE. *circa* 1860.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

two for Mid-Lothian, Sir Alexander Gibson-Maitland and Mr Drybrough.¹ Mr Ramsay continued Stracey as huntsman and Trueman Tuff as first whipper-in, while John Scott,² who had previously acted as second-horseman to Captain Sandilands, was promoted to the second whipper-in's place vacated by Thomas Cranston.³ The season commenced in the Carnwath country about the end of October, but in the middle of the following month, the hounds were brought to the Golfhall kennels in order to overtake the home country. Although the current of events had run smoothly up to this time, there now began to gather over Barnton the gloom which deepened around it and spread itself throughout the entire hunting country during the last days of the year. The story of Mr Ramsay's untimely death is still well known to many. In the end of November he had gone to Lee Castle, where he was present at the celebration of the coming of age of Sir Norman Macdonald Lockhart. When returning to Lanark after a ball given in connection with the event by Mr Monteith of Carstairs, the driver of the omnibus which conveyed him and several other guests, mistook a turn in the road, and drove under some trees, Mr Ramsay being dragged from his seat by a branch and re-

¹ Minute of Meeting held at Linlithgow, March 31st 1865, among Hunt papers in the custody of Messrs Glen & Henderson, Linlithgow.

² Afterwards huntsman to the Albrighton Hounds.

³ Afterwards huntsman, for seventeen seasons, to the Berwickshire Hounds.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

ceiving a wound on his leg just below the knee. The following day he returned to Barnton and, feeling little the worse of his accident, afterwards went out hunting as usual. On the 11th of December he dined and slept at Hopetoun House, where the hounds were to meet next morning. After hunting on the 12th, he felt unwell and returned home. Subsequently the wound on his leg became inflamed, fever and erysipelas followed, and his death took place on the morning of the 30th of the month.¹

Thus ended the last of the three masterships held by members of the Barnton family in successive generations. But the connexion between the family and the Hunt was not yet at an end, for, although the male line became extinct in the person of Mr Charles Ramsay, the female line was not exhausted, and the succession to the estates of Barnton, Sauchie, and Bannockburn, which had been entailed by Mr George Ramsay in the year 1807, now devolved upon his eldest daughter's eldest son, Sir Alexander Gibson-Maitland,² who for a number of years past had been a zealous supporter of the Hunt, and was at this period still hunting with the pack.

When, after Mr Ramsay's funeral, hunting was resumed on the 11th of January, Captain Sandilands again acted as master, and continued to do

¹ 'Edinburgh Evening Courant,' 1st January 1866.

² On his succession to the estates of Barnton, Sauchie, and Bannockburn, Sir Alexander Charles Gibson-Maitland assumed the additional surname of Ramsay.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

so from that time until the end of the season. But the gloom of the preceding month lifted but little, for the spring of the year 1866 was a cold and stormy one, and hunting was much interfered with by frost and snow. For this reason perhaps, an early finish was decided upon, and the last advertised fixture was Binny cottage on the 17th of March. When the pack came to be sold a little later, Colonel Gillon, who had by that time agreed to undertake the mastership, purchased the dog-hounds, while the late Lord Eglinton became the owner of the bitches. The sale of the hounds was accompanied by the departure of the Hunt servants. Scott went as second whipper-in to the Fife Hounds; Trueman Tuff was engaged by Lord Eglinton, and accompanied the hounds which his lordship had purchased, to Ayrshire; while Stracey, who had earned the good opinion of the followers of the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire pack through the excellent sport he had shown, became huntsman first to the Cambridgeshire and then to the Vine Hounds. When he retired from active service in 1876, the members of the Vine Hunt presented him with a cup and two hundred sovereigns "in recognition of the able manner in which he discharged his duty for nine seasons as huntsman."¹ Some years afterwards, he returned to Scotland and took up his abode with his friend John Atkinson, who in 1887 had resigned the post of huntsman

¹ Newspaper cutting in scrap-book which belonged to Captain Sandilands, in the possession of Lord Torphichen.

HISTORY OF THE L. & S. HUNT

to the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire Hounds. And it was in Atkinson's house, which he named "Foxville," on the slope of Corstorphine hill, one winter afternoon, that the author's first and only meeting with Stracey took place. So frail did he then seem as he sat in his arm-chair by the fireside, with a plaid wrapt about his knees, that it was difficult to realise that he had ever possessed sufficient vigour to hunt a pack of fox-hounds. It was always said that a grave awaited him in the Vine country beside that of his wife; but when he departed this life on the 19th of May 1895, at the age of eighty-one, Atkinson buried his old friend in the Grange cemetery in Edinburgh, in accordance with the oft-repeated injunction, "Where the tree falls, there let it lie."

CHAPTER VII.

THE LAIRD OF WALLHOUSE.

1866-1869.

THE name of Mr Charles Ramsay's successor in the mastership has already occurred frequently in these pages. Almost ever since he had come into possession of the family estate of Wallhouse, Colonel Gillon had led the life of an active country gentleman, and although hunting regularly with the pack, devoted much of his time and attention to the prosperity of the district in which his property lay. Thus was there represented in the person of the new master the welfare of a considerable part of the country hunted as well as that of the Hunt, a circumstance which could not fail to build up friendly relations between those whose land was ridden over and those who followed hounds; while Colonel Gillon's own kindness of heart and natural charm of manner formed the keystone, so to speak, of this structure of good feeling.

Colonel Gillon was a keen fox-hunter, and being a bold horseman, and having an intimate know-

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

ledge of the greater part of the country over which he rode, was generally able to be with hounds when they ran hard. The leap which he took when hunting in the Warwickshire country, in the spring of the year 1856, is probably without a parallel in the annals of the chase, and will not be forgotten so long as fox-hunting lasts. Hounds had met at Charlecote, and during a run which ensued, Colonel Gillon, riding his celebrated white horse Potiphar,¹ then fifteen years old, cleared an extraordinarily wide fence, the distance from the taking off of the horse's fore feet to the landing of his hind ones being afterwards measured by the Rev. Mr Drake, an eye-witness, as being not less than thirty-four feet. The fame of this performance soon spread beyond the limits of the district in which it took place, and even beyond the shores of Great Britain, for the following account of the episode appeared in one of the French newspapers of the time. "Dans une réunion de chasse, qui a eu lieu tout récemment dans le Warwick-Shire, M. Gillon, de Wallhouse, montant son cheval *Putiphar*, âgé de 15 ans, a franchi une palissade formée d'une haie, d'un fossé et d'une barrière; le saut a été de 34 pieds. Le terrain a été mesuré immédiatement après ce magnifique saut périlleux." The string which Mr Drake used in making his measurement subsequently came into Colonel Gillon's possession, and is preserved and valued by his son, Captain Gillon,

¹ *Vide* illustration, p. 170.



1877.

Photo by Horsburgh, Edinburgh.

COLONEL ANDREW GILLON OF WALLHOUSE.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

as a memento of his father's remarkable exploit on the gallant old Potiphar.

It was at a meeting of the Hunt, held on the 14th of February 1866,¹ about six weeks after Mr Ramsay's death, that Colonel Gillon pledged himself to take the control. Immediately prior to his doing so, the Hunt had stood in a somewhat anomalous position—it had been a Hunt without a master and without a pack of hounds,—and the sixth Earl of Hopetoun and Sir Alexander Maitland having both declined to accept the management, it seemed questionable whether the country, through which the music of hounds had resounded from time immemorial, could be hunted any longer. But when once the sportsmen of that day were brought together, all doubt on the subject was dispelled, for in spite of the difficulties which existed, they speedily decided in favour of a continuance of the establishment and, acting upon the suggestion of Major Ferrier Hamilton of Cathlaw, invited Colonel Gillon to hunt the country for them with a subscription of £1000. This Colonel Gillon agreed to do for the following season, and at the same time engaged to bear personally all expenses which the subscription might be insufficient to meet.

With the flight of time the face of the country had undergone some alteration, since during the preceding five-and-twenty years mineral workings had increased, railways had been formed, and

¹ 'Edinburgh Evening Courant' of 16th February 1866.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

wire had begun to show itself in places. Notwithstanding these disadvantages, a great deal of good hunting country remained uninjured, and there was little to prevent hounds running both far and fast with a good scent. For some years prior to Mr Charles Ramsay's death, Stirlingshire had been hunted much less frequently and extensively than in former times, but now that the control came to rest with Colonel Gillon, who had always been averse to any relaxation regarding the hunting of that part of the Hunt's territory, the resumption of it to a great extent was almost assured. Indeed, Colonel Gillon undertook to hunt a tract of country ranging from the borders of Dumbartonshire and Perthshire to Corstorphine in Mid-Lothian, including the Carse of Stirling and Linlithgowshire,¹ and through the expanse of this area it was hoped that there would be both spring and autumn hunting, of which latter there had been but little for some time past. "Now [1865] there is no cub-hunting, except they have a turn or two at the Corstorphine hills, which are all rocks and braes and brambles. They generally begin there, and the gardeners and keepers light fires and net the rocks in some places, and even then the foxes will not be forced away, but make wild dashes at the nets."² Nor as a matter of fact did Colonel Gillon depart from the spirit of his undertaking, since, during his

¹ 'Edinburgh Evening Courant,' 16th February 1866.

² 'Field and Fern' (South), 1865, p. 56.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

mastership, the hounds met as far to the north-west as Sauchie and Bannockburn, and as far to the south-east as Barnton and Corstorphine. But, then as now, the best sport was got in Linlithgowshire, for the Stirlingshire side of the country was somewhat short of foxes, and a blank day was not unknown.

Simultaneously with Colonel Gillon's acceptance of the mastership, a committee was appointed to buy as many of Mr Ramsay's hounds as would enable hunting to be prosecuted during the following season;¹ but when the purchase came to be made, it was effected by Colonel Gillon in his own name, and the pack remained his private property throughout his term of office. In acknowledging him to be the proprietor of the hounds, as they did, the Hunt committee proceeded with some care and forethought, and they caused it to be recorded in their minutes that, in doing so, they guarded themselves against giving to him any personal right to the country, "considering that country belongs in equity to whatever pack of hounds may be regularly hunted with the sanction and approval of the proprietors and others to whom the country belongs."² But this caution on the part of the committee, although commendable, proved to be unnecessary, and it would have been strange indeed if Colonel Gillon, who had been so devoted a

¹ 'Edinburgh Evening Courant,' 16th February 1866.

² Minute of Meeting of the Committee, 5th December 1866, among Hunt papers in the custody of Messrs Glen & Henderson, Linlithgow.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

friend, and so staunch a supporter of the pack, had at any time endeavoured to establish a right in his person at variance with the interests of the Hunt.

The hounds purchased—the dog-hounds of Mr Ramsay's pack—were sent to the old kennels at Laurieston, which, in addition to being very considerably nearer Wallhouse than the kennels at Golfhall, occupied a much more central position. Nevertheless, it was a far cry from Laurieston to Corstorphine hill, and when the eastern side of the country was visited, the hounds, through the kindness of Lord Hopetoun, were permitted to lie at Hopetoun the night before hunting. Similarly, when the southern district was overtaken, the pack was kennelled at Uphall, where Mrs Glen, who at that time kept the inn there, had all in readiness upon receipt of a message from the huntsman. The selection of the Laurieston kennels, however, was fraught with trouble, for the hounds were soon attacked by kennel lameness, and in spite of the execution of extensive repairs, they continued to suffer from the malady, more or less, throughout the whole of the three years in which Colonel Gillon was master. When they became distressed and unfit for work, they were frequently removed to Wallhouse, where they soon recovered; and there can be little doubt that the disease was produced either by the state of the kennels, which were then of many years' standing, or by the nature of the soil on

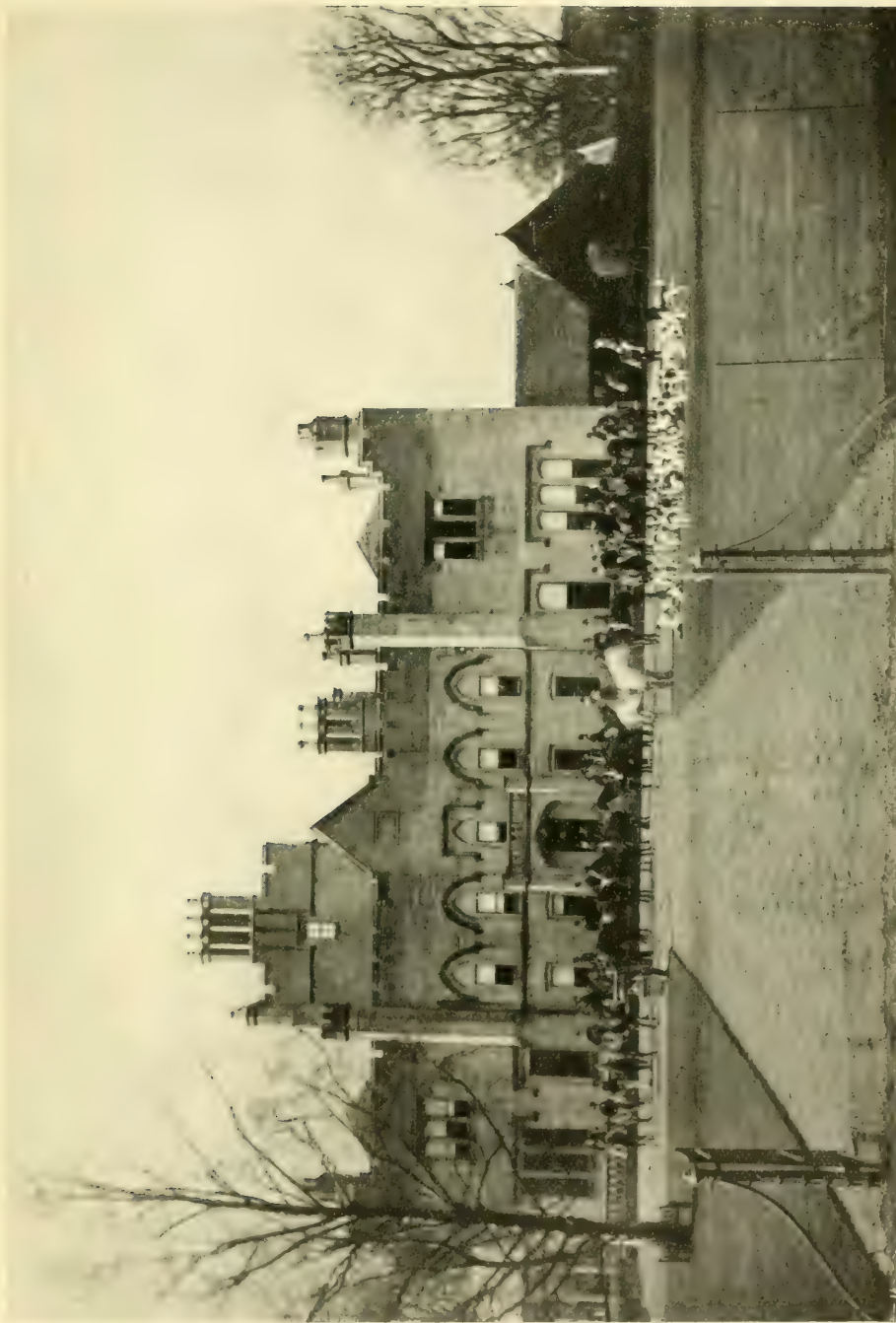


Photo by Camp & Co. Baltimore, Md.

WALLHOUSE.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

which they were built. Probably it was in consequence of this trouble that, during Colonel Gillon's mastership, very few hounds were bred at home, and that the strength of the pack was maintained principally by the acquisition of drafts, which were got from many different kennels, including the Cheshire, Lord Eglinton's, the Old Burton, the Milton, the Berkeley, Lord Wemyss', and the Pytchley.

With the flight of time also there had been a gradual, if perhaps an almost imperceptible, change in the constitution of the Hunt, and now many of the landowners who had formerly joined in the chase no longer did so, nor were they, although still permitting their property to be ridden over, even resident in the country to the same extent as before; while the number of sportsmen from the Scottish capital was always steadily increasing.

Without endeavouring to enumerate all the followers of the pack or supporters which the Hunt had at this time, the names of a few of such as appear to have been the most prominent may be given. Of those connected with the county of Linlithgow there were—in addition to Colonel Gillon—the sixth Earl of Hopetoun, whose mastership of the Pytchley Hounds had ended a few years earlier, and who, although not hunting regularly, was still very fond of the sport; Sir William Baillie of Polkemmet and Major Ferrier Hamilton of Cathlaw, both staunch fox preservers, notwithstanding the fact that the former was almost

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

never, and the latter but seldom, in the field; Mr George Mitchell-Innes of Bangour, a light-weight, possessed of excellent hands, and probably the best man to hounds and one of the best sportsmen in the Hunt at this period; his cousin, Major, afterwards Colonel, Thomas Shairp of Houstoun, a heavy-weight, almost equally meritorious, and the owner, some years later, of an exceptionally good brown mare; Captain Robert Steuart of Carphin, now of Westwood, to whom no form of sport ever came amiss; Mr J. G. Dawson, who, with the exception perhaps of Mr T. W. Tod, Clerwood, Corstorphine, has probably hunted with the pack for a greater number of years than any other member of the field at the present day; and Dr Chirnside, Blackburn House, a heavy-weight, a good sportsman, a first-rate man to hounds, and one of the few who followed them over the Easter Cairn hill into Peeblesshire in the run from Dalmahoy afterwards alluded to. Stirlingshire held its own with such men as Mr Forbes of Callendar, who had first hunted with the pack as early as the year 1840, who rode straight, and than whom none knew better what hounds were doing; Sir W. Cumming-Bruce of Stenhouse, a good sportsman, and “a bad ’un to beat” across country; Mr Campbell of Millfield, a hard rider, and Mr G. Chalmer-Stirling of Larbert, who gave his support to the establishment as his forebears had done, and whose brother-in-law, Major Ponsonby-Cox, the author of some clever and amusing verses

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

entitled "The Opening of the Line,"¹ began to hunt a year or two later. For Mid-Lothian, among others, there stood forth Sir Alexander Maitland of Cliftonhall, who, although hunting less frequently than formerly, still went well, and was at this time the largest subscriber; Mr Peter M'Lagan of Pumpherston, M.P. for Linlithgowshire, whose coverts seldom failed to hold a fox; and Mr James Cochrane, younger of Bradshaw, who early in life had the misfortune to lose one of his arms, but who nevertheless broke hunters for his father as well as for himself. From Edinburgh there came many good sportsmen who worked hard, one way or another, in the interests of the Hunt, who loosened the strings of their purses in the good cause, and who, since their headquarters were in town, frequently travelled considerable distances by road both before and after hunting. Among such were Mr T. E. O. Horne, afterwards honorary secretary and treasurer, devoted to many kinds of sport, but above all to fox-hunting; Mr William Blackwood, a hard man to hounds, and, in spite of falls and accidents, always undaunted, whose hunters were well turned out for him by his old groom, Tom Tait; Mr Thomas Dryborough, whose hands were of the best, and to whose zeal and energy the Hunt owed much, both at this time and in later years; Mr James Turnbull,—father of the present Lady Usher,—a good sportsman and horseman, also gifted as to hands; Mr Charles

¹ "The Opening of the Line," by Ponsonby-Cox, 1886.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

Murray Barstow, the owner of some nice horses, which he did not spare when hounds ran; Mr J. A. Ker, a well-known figure in the field, and Mr, afterwards Sir, John Usher—father of the present master, Sir Robert,—who rode straight and hard almost up to the end of his life. To this last category there might perhaps be added the name of a well-known character, Mr A. E. Macknight, nick-named “Paganini” in consequence of his skill in playing the violin, who, although noted for his parsimony, was undoubtedly a lover of the chase. The farmers—last but not least, and always deserving of honourable mention—were loyal supporters whether they hunted or not. Those who did were frequently in the front rank, even when indifferently mounted, while those who did not took a keen interest in, and were therefore almost always glad to see, the hounds. Of those who came into the field about this time probably the best known were Mr Allan,¹ Knightsridge; Mr Burnet, Dolphinton; Mr James I. Davidson,² Townhead, Balerno; Mr John H. Dickson, Saughton Mains, afterwards factor in Dumfriesshire to the Duke of Buccleuch; Mr Alexander Dudgeon, Easter Dalmeny; and his brother, Mr George Dudgeon, Almondhill; Mr G. R. Glendinning, Hatton Mains, afterwards factor to the Earl of Morton; Mr James Gray, Braehead; and his brother, Mr Patrick Gray,

¹ Afterwards at Gogar Mains, now at Redheughs.

² Now at Saughton Mains.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

Freelands ; Mr Kerr, The Bloom ; Mr Lesslie, Boghall ; Mr Ralph, The Park ; Mr Reid, The Haining ; Mr John Stodart, Bangour ; Mr Wilson, Gateside ; Mr Thomas Young, Oatridge ; and Mr James Young, B'ormie.

Mr James Young, better known by the name of his farm, was quite a celebrity in the Hunt, and at this time had been a follower of the pack for nearly forty years. Being now (1867) seventy-four years of age, his hunting days may be said to have been numbered, and his friends in the field realising this, seized an opportunity and had the photograph here reproduced taken before it was too late to do so. In this picture old B'ormie appears mounted on his wonderful pony Donald, which he had purchased from Mr Paris at Cockleroi as a three-year-old, just twenty years before. Donald was almost as well known and as great a character as his master, and there are many anecdotes told of him. One day when hunting, the hounds ran straight through one of those old overgrown thorn hedges which are still to be found in the country. This was at least seven or eight feet in height, and the field were compelled to ride round, but B'ormie, dismounting, crept through a hole in it near the roots, and Donald, laying himself down like a dog, followed suit, whereby he and his owner saved a considerable detour and had hounds all to themselves for a time. When Mrs Young died and the friends of the family were assembled in the farmhouse

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

for the funeral service, the hounds, as it unfortunately happened, ran past in full cry. Donald, greatly excited, broke loose, galloped round to the house, and banged on the door with his feet in order to attract his master's attention, being quite unable to understand what prevented him from turning out and joining the chase. Three years after the taking of the photograph, and some three before the time when his master, full of years, departed this life, Donald breathed his last and was buried in the field immediately to the south of the mill-dam on B'ormie farm. The verses written on his death by Mr James Ruthven, Bee-craigs, are well worthy of preservation, and could not have failed to comfort Mr Young in the loss of his favourite; while the delightful reference to the sluggish temperament of the pony's successor, may even have evoked a smile from the old man.

ON THE DEATH OF OLD B'ORMIE'S DONALD.

The far-famed Donald here doth lie.
To the best of hunters bid good-bye.
The biggest fence he ne'er did shy,
 But through did rush;
The leading hounds he aye kept nigh
 And took the brush.

Nae mair the huntsman's horn he'll hear,
Nor at the cover side appear,
Nor round the hill his master bear
 With lightning speed;
For Death's ta'en Donald frae us a'
 And he is deid.



Photo by Doug Lindberg.

OLD F'ORMIE AND HIS PONY, DONALD.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

Alas for Donald, och alace !
His place is vacant in the chase.
With honour he the hunt did grace
For nineteen year ;
An Icelander has ta'en his place,
Wha keeps the rear.

In addition to the regular members of the field, there were many others who occasionally hunted with the pack, and in the very neatly, carefully, and regularly kept hunting diary which Colonel Gillon has left, the names of several visitors are recorded. Among them are those of Colonel Sir David Carrick Buchanan, for many years master of the Lanarkshire and Renfrewshire Hounds ; Lord Eglinton, who in 1862 had begun to hunt the Ayrshire country ; Colonel Greenhill Gardyne, who then hunted Forfarshire and was afterwards master of the Fife Hounds ; Mr Fenwick, afterwards master of the Tynedale Hounds ; Mr Oswald of Dunnikier ; Mr Oswald of Auchencruive ; Lord Sommerville ; Mr Sothern, who at this time was probably making his appearance on the Edinburgh stage as "Lord Dundreary" ; and last but not least, Mr George Whyte-Melville. Colonel Gardyne, without being a regular attendant, hunted a good deal with the pack during Colonel Gillon's first season, and on one occasion, towards the end of the run from Dalmahoy before alluded to, generously lent his hunter to Horton, the huntsman, whose own horse was too much distressed to go farther. Colonel Gardyne, *a propos* of this incident, says "Horton was a very

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

little chap, and on my great big roan, looked like a pea on a girdle."

Horton had previously been with the Eamont Harriers, and although report differs as to his ability in the field, it would seem that Colonel Gillon at least was sufficiently satisfied with his performance, for he not only retained his services throughout his mastership, but more than once alludes in his diary to a clever cast on the part of his huntsman as well as to the perfect appearance which the hounds presented; while from a perusal of Horton's letters,¹ it may be gathered that he was hard-working, honest, and pains-taking. The same cannot be said of Hoggan, the first whipper-in, who seems to have been anything but a good servant, and whose unsatisfactory conduct, generally, necessitated his departure in the middle of Colonel Gillon's first season. In the following one, Fred Smith and George Cox, until lately huntsman to the Glamorganshire Hounds,² came as whippers-in, the former staying for one year, at the end of which he was succeeded by Joseph Outhwaite, and the latter for two. One Saturday evening, in his last season, Colonel Gillon told Cox to stop some hounds on the far side of a brook³ not far from Wallhouse. Cox, who was riding a mare named Miss Cox, set her going

¹ Among Hunt papers in the custody of Messrs Glen & Henderson, Linlithgow.

² George Cox, huntsman to the Glamorganshire Hounds for twenty-three seasons, retired in 1909.

³ Probably the Couston water.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

at the water, which she cleared, covering, according to a measurement made by Colonel Gillon the following morning, eighteen and a half feet from rise to landing.

Turning to the sport which was had in these years, Colonel Gillon's diary¹ shows how he described those hunting days which appear to have been the best or most eventful ones during his mastership.

SEASON 1866-67.

1866. Dec. 6. Dalmahoy. 15½ couple of hounds. Rode Norman. Fine. Scent good. Went from Hanley to meet. Large and good field. Found a brace and ran all about for an hour and three-quarters. At last a fox broke away south crossed railway and into hill plantation, and on over hill and across Lanark road. Here a nice burst over a good country took place to Buteland farm where a check occurred, which was soon rectified, and away with a good scent towards Malleny. Then south-west on to the heather to a quarry on hill, and in to Thrashie Dean. Here Horton dismounted and hit off his fox and hunted him clean over Easter Cairn-hill to Cauld-stane-slap where the hounds were eventually stopped. Time from Dalmahoy to Easter Cairn one hour and three quarters. Sleet and rain and snow brought in a dirty night. Having refreshed at Bradshaw, I rode to Mid-c Calder for hack, and after a cold dark ride arrived at home at 7 P.M. very fresh indeed.

1867. Feb. 9. Champfleurie. 17 couple of hounds. Rode Beauty and Norman. Fine. Scent good. Found

¹ In the possession of Mr Andrew Gillon, Edinburgh.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

immediately in laurels near house, crossed road at schoolhouse and skirting Kingscavil quarry, went over Nancy's hill at a great pace and into low lands south of badger earths. Here, being headed, he made a very slight detour westwards round a smooth grassy hill, but eventually faced the hill southwards and made straight for Riccarton. Passing over the summit, he descended south side and across the deep loamy lands of North Mains and right on to Bangour. Entering on north side, after a brief check, he had to leave covert on south side and away west along the march between Uphall parish lands and Drumcross, boldly facing Knock hill, and passing over it to north-west by Johnston's lime quarries, he went to ground in a drain on Ballencrieff Mains. Time 50 minutes, distance 9 miles, and considering the deep state of the country the pace was great. Few saw the run from end to end. Jas. Turnbull, Dr Chirnside, and Mr Barstow went very well. The little mare did wonders and never quitted the hounds during this severe and trying run. While a strong digging-out party commenced operations, the hounds ran a fox into Cairnpapple, but scent being bad, they were trotted off to try Hart's coverts, but no fox being found, the Knock whin was being drawn, when a view holloa from the opposite hill proclaimed the fox had been unearthed and captured. Being enlarged on top of Lord Hopetoun's hill, a regular steeplechase run took place by Jenny Threpney's, round hill by T. Russell's house, on to silver mine, Craigmaling, Tartraven, and into Bangour, where he obtained shelter in breeding earth. . . . A brilliant day's sport "*Floreat Scientia.*"

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

SEASON 1867-68.¹

1868. Feb. 15. Dechmont Toll. 17 couple of hounds. Rode Tom Thumb. Snow-showers. Scent good. A small field out. Found a fox in small gorse at Bangour, and ran a splendid line through Ballytap, Tartraven, B'ormie, Cockleroi to William Craig's where first very slight check occurred. Hit it off at once and ran due north as if for canal, but being pressed the fox was forced to wheel left about, and made due south through Bellsyde, Bowden, Lochcote, and Gormyre to Cathlaw, where skirting Witchcraig, he entered Cairnpapple on north side, and passed without hesitation out on south side over Lord Hopetoun's hill to Clinkingstone. Before reaching the latter covert, a blinding shower of snow for ten minutes completely obscured all view of the pack which, nevertheless, were working their fox steadily, as on the storm subsiding, they were found running into Hart's quarries above Kirkton. At this point it looked certain a kill would end this glorious run, but a fresh fox being tallied away by a crowd of foot people on Knock hill blasted all our hopes, and the result was a run to earth with a fresh fox in Hilderstone old lime quarries. Time to first check 25 minutes. Time to Knock hill, 1 hour and 30 minutes.
- „ Mar. 10. Morton Covert. 17½ couples of hounds. Rode Tom Thumb. Fine. Scent very good. Drew Morton covert blank. Tried along river-banks towards Rhüins, and hounds seemed to acknow-

¹ In the earlier part of this season hunting was more than once stopped by frost, and it was not until after Christmas that the best sport was obtained.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

ledge a very faint drag, but after crossing Cal. railway, a fox was viewed going straight away over the open. The pack [was] speedily laid on, and went at it as if something serious was to be the result. His line appeared at first to be Calder whin, and he crossed the new railway at Williamston, but suddenly turned due west through Muirieston and crossing the road he was brilliantly hit off, and for'ard on [was] the cry through Westfield, Limefield, and Brotherton, and recrossing new railway line from south to north crossed Lanark road and on due north to Gavieside where some roughish country had to be accommodated and rivers crossed. On, on went the pack through Gavieside and across Midcalder road near Guns Green toll, and over Breich river near Over Grange farm and straight for west corner of Cousland coverts, then due west over Blackburn moss and to ground in a drain below The Inch farm-house. This was a fine run indeed! Time 70 minutes, pace good throughout, no checks. Distance as the crow flies, 9 miles; distance traversed at least 12 or 13 miles. Few up.

1868. April 3. Bangour. 17 couple of hounds. Rode Hardware. Balmy. Scent very good. A fine morning, mild as summer, with a balmy west wind blowing. After a conversation with Mr Stodart as to the depredation amongst his lambs by our old friend, who had on two former occasions given us excellent runs, but beat us, it was resolved at once to draw for him in the old covert. He was found at once, and the hounds getting away within 150 yards of him, forced him at top speed due west through the Quarter-lands and bending north-west, by silver mine, into Cairnpapple. Driving him before them, they made him quit this usual

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

resting-place, and seek other shelter which didn't seem easily found on this occasion, as, passing through Cathlaw, he made straight through Gormyre for Lochcote, where trying the block quarries unsuccessfully, he was overtaken and all but caught behind Woodcockdale cottage but dodging his pursuers most cleverly, he crossed the Avon and ran on the Stirlingshire bank till opposite Muiravonside House, where he was compelled to recross and seek shelter in Andrew Taylor's cottage at Carubber lime works. This, however, the wife denied him, and he was driven on to roof, from which he was dislodged and killed. Time 50 minutes, pace very fast; and scent, to surprise of all, first rate. This being the last day of the season, another draw was decided on, and after trying Torphichen whin and a portion of Cairnpapple that had been undisturbed, a fox stole away in the open, and hounds being close to him, raced him through Cathlaw, due north over Kipps march and over Kipps hills to B'ormie muir, leaving which he was viewed and the pack sticking close to him he went to ground in Bowden, was dug out and killed. Time 30 minutes; all grass.

SEASON 1868-69.

1869. Feb. 2. Larbert Station. 22 couple of hounds. Rode Whipcord. Cold north-east wind. Scent good. A brilliant day. Four young Hope-Johnstones, Sir W. Bruce and sons, Mr Duncan, formed the field. Hunter's Folly produced a good travelling fox that broke due west but was headed [in attempting to cross the Denny road]. This compelled him to take first a southerly direction [by Muir-

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

head and Hillend] and then eventually to cross the Denny road at Rennie's or Bankhead and right into the garden surrounded by a very high wall. The delay occasioned in getting the hounds out, gave the fox 7 or 8 minutes good start. Away the pack went [with a blazing scent] over a very fine open country towards Whitehill farm [and Bottomhead] but as Castle Rankine glen was his point, he now bent due north and [skirting Drumbowie] into it. Here he found no shelter as the holes, having been smoked the day previous, were not tempting, and the hounds were pressing. So he faced the open country to Tappitknowe and then up the Birn hill and on to Denny moor. Time to this point 1 hour. Wire now gave trouble and let the pack run out of view. Those up agreed to divide in search, and the huntsman and those who remained with him found the hounds at Garrel hill earths [two miles north of Kilsyth]—8 miles as crow flies, 13 miles as hounds ran. [Only one couple of hounds missing at the finish.]¹

1869. Feb. 13. Westwood. 19½ couple of hounds. Rode Whipcord. Cold west wind. Scent good. No fox at Westwood. Drew Charlesfield, Wilderness, Bellsquarry, blank. Found at 2.30 in Morton covert a wild hill fox. Was headed breaking down wind and eventually broke west as if for Harburn, but suddenly ere he reached the stripes, wheeled due south and away o'er the moors and clean over Wester Cairn. Mr Kerr (Bloom) and I alone gained the summit, and although we searched for one hour and a half, saw no sign of them. On returning alone to Easter Collium where my horse

¹ The words in brackets are supplied from a slightly fuller account of this run which appeared in the 'Courant' of 4th February 1869.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

had been taken to by young Mr Cairnie, I met the huntsman and 1st whip with 6 couples. Half the pack were out during a fearful night of wind and rain. Most reached home on Sunday. May we never see the like again.

The Champfleurie day above described did not quite end in the fox getting to ground at Bangour, and the sequel to the sport formed the subject of a story which Colonel Gillon was fond of telling. That evening a number of those who had taken part in the chase dined at Wallhouse, and as the wine passed round the table after dinner, conversation naturally turned on hunting and the events of the day. Suddenly the butler entered and said, "He's here, sir." "Who's here?" "The fox, sir, he's at the front door." In an instant every man was on his legs and at the front door also, where, in a sack, having been unearthed for the second time, was the good fox which had afforded so much sport. At a word from Colonel Gillon he was released, and amid a regular chorus of view holloas, crossed the lawn. Then in a "silence deep as death," contrasting forcibly with the previous uproar, the hero of the day was watched as far as the eye could reach in the faint light of a new February moon, stealing noiselessly away over the soft dewy grass.

Between his second and third seasons—or, to be strictly accurate, on the 10th of February 1868—Colonel Gillon resigned the mastership, and it would seem that Mr Waldron Hill, who at this

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

time was living at Murrayfield House near Edinburgh, and from it hunting the otter on the Avon and the Almond as well as on many of the other rivers in the south of Scotland, would have been accepted as his successor had he chosen to come forward. This, however, Mr Hill, after apparently giving the matter serious consideration, decided not to do, for the reason that, being unable to ride, he felt he could not satisfactorily undertake the duties of master in the field. No other suitable candidate for the mastership presenting himself, the prospects of the Hunt were for a time far from bright, but after the lapse of a few weeks, Colonel Gillon, to the relief of all concerned, intimated his willingness to continue for another season, and thus trouble was once more averted. The terms upon which Colonel Gillon resumed the control differed slightly from those previously agreed to, inasmuch as the subscription was increased to £1200, and it was understood that the country should be hunted two days a-week, with a bye-day at the master's discretion—one day a fortnight at least to be devoted to the Stirlingshire district. Under this arrangement—the kennel lameness still existing—Colonel Gillon acquiesced in a proposal that the Golfhall kennels should again be adopted as headquarters, and he seems also to have generously offered to build a kennel at Wallhouse, from which the north-western part of the country could be conveniently overtaken; but difficulties intervened which prevented



1876.

COLONEL GILLON ON SNOWDROP.

GOURLAY STEEL.

From Painting in the possession of Mrs Gillon, Edinburgh.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

this proposal being carried into effect, and the hounds remained at Laurieston.

Thus for the second time Colonel Gillon had stepped gallantly into the breach, and carried on the hunting of the country at a critical period. But there being an end of all things, his retirement sooner or later was a certainty, and after one more season had passed, he finally intimated his resignation. The letter which he then addressed to the Hunt committee—a letter full of characteristically kind and sportsmanlike feeling—was read at a meeting of the Hunt, held on the 17th of March 1869, shortly before the season ended.

WALLHOUSE, March 17th, 1869.

GENTLEMEN,—I had hoped to be able to attend the meeting to-day, but regret that, owing to my present state, I am unable to do so.

I now beg to thank you most heartily for all your great kindness and consideration during the time I have had the hounds, and for all the trouble you have taken on my account. May I ask your chairman to return for me my best thanks to the subscribers, absent as well as present, who have liberally and warmly supported me during my term of office.

At the same time I would tender my grateful thanks to the landed proprietors, owners of coverts, farmers and tenant farmers, for the countenance and support they have so generously shown me.

I have striven to show sport and keep up the credit of the old establishment, but I am quite aware of my many failings and shortcomings, for which I crave indulgence.

I am glad to learn there is every prospect of hounds being kept up in this country. Whoever may be the

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

future master, I promise him a hearty welcome, and my coverts and country are at his service. Should I remain to hunt in the country, I promise him further support by subscribing.—I am, Gentlemen, your most obedient Servant,
A. GILLON.

The Hunt Committee,
L. & S. Hunt.

And here this chapter might end, were it not that there must yet be placed on record an acknowledgment of the services rendered to the Hunt at this time by other good friends. The Hunt committee—consisting of Major Ferrier Hamilton, Colonel Shairp, Sir Alexander Maitland, Mr Learmonth McKenzie, Mr T. E. O. Horne, and Mr T. Drybrough,—to whom, as a body, the above letter is addressed, and whom the master thanks so cordially, had doubtless borne their appropriate share of the labour. In the beginning, Major Hamilton had acted as honorary secretary *ad interim*, but Mr Drybrough seems eventually to have undertaken his duties to a certain extent, and to have been chiefly instrumental in maintaining the subscription. The late Mr W. H. Henderson, besides being honorary treasurer, assisted greatly in the carrying out of many of the details connected with the management, and for a short space one cub-hunting season, even took charge in the field during the temporary absence of the master. In Mr Waldron Hill, Colonel Gillon seems to have had a friend ready to sympathise regarding the troubles in kennel, and it is probable

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

that the opinion of the former, which was cordially given when asked, was worth having, for he had done what but few others have—viz., served an amateur apprenticeship in a fox-hound kennel. From James Treadwell, huntsman to Mr Horlock, prior to his Bramham days under Mr Lane Fox, Mr Hill first learned the kennel management of a pack of fox-hounds, and the knowledge which he then acquired no doubt afterwards stood him in good stead in the case of his own hounds. But while any help which the Hunt committee and others could give, might have tended to increase the popularity and prestige of the master, it was his own hearty and genial manner, and kind and considerate disposition which gained for Colonel Gillon the affection of all classes during his mastership of the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire Hounds.

CHAPTER VIII.

THE UNION.

1869-1877.

WHEN the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire Hunt came to be without a master in consequence of the retirement of Colonel Gillon, it so happened that the Lothian, *i.e.*, East Lothian, Hunt was placed in a similar position through the resignation of Captain, now Sir Alexander, Kinloch of Gilmerton. Before entering into the circumstances attending the temporary union of these Hunts, which was resolved upon in the spring of the year 1869, it will be convenient to look back on the history of the hunting of the East Lothian or Haddingtonshire country which, up to this point, has only been referred to casually. As already mentioned, this district, in the end of the eighteenth and beginning of the nineteenth century, had pertained to the old Lothian, now the Duke of Buccleuch's Hunt, under the management of Mr Robert Baird of Newbyth and the fifth Duke of Buccleuch, but later, in the year 1833, had been lent by his

HISTORY OF THE L. & S. HUNT

Grace, with the use of his kennels at Amisfield,¹ to the Earl of Wemyss, then Lord Elcho, who for ten seasons hunted it along with the Duns country in Berwickshire. In 1843, when his lordship accepted the Northumberland country, that of East Lothian was taken over, with the approval of the Duke, by Mr W. R. Ramsay of Barnton, and hunted in conjunction with the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire country until 1848.² Between 1848 and 1853 the country appears to have remained vacant, but in the latter year an arrangement was effected whereby the Fife hounds, of which the Earl of Rosslyn was then master, visited it periodically during the two following seasons. At that time foxes were scarce, and so difficult was it to find one, that Lord Rosslyn was induced to turn to Kilduff wood, almost the only reliable covert, upon six consecutive hunting days, on each of which he found, a circumstance which may have given rise to the story that, whatever happened to be the fixture, his lordship, after a little formal drawing, would exclaim, "This is all rot, let us go to Kilduff!"

The termination of the arrangement with Lord Rosslyn and the existence of a very general desire that in the future the country should be hunted by a pack of hounds of its own led to the estab-

¹ The kennels at Amisfield were built by the fifth Duke of Buccleuch in 1829.—Papers at Dalkeith House.

² In these years—1843 to 1848—Mr Ramsay hunted the East Lothian country from the kennels at Amisfield.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

lishment, in 1855, of the second or East Lothian Hunt. Mr John Fletcher of Saltoun was the first master of the pack, and continued to hold that position until the year 1860, when he succeeded Mr Montagu in the control of the South Berks Hunt. The good work which he had begun was then taken up and carried on by Sir David Baird of Newbyth and Sir Alexander Kinloch, who showed excellent sport during the eight seasons in which they were associated in the mastership. Probably two circumstances aided them not a little in their labours,—the acquisition at the outset of some good hounds, and their happy choice of a huntsman. For those hounds which were bought at Captain Percy Williams' sale on his giving up the Rufford country proved the making of the Lothian pack, and although the purchase involved a considerable outlay, it was never regretted by either of the joint-masters. Of the dog-hounds, Carver, Harmattan and Herald, all good in their work and to look upon, were the best; while Bracelet who, among the bitches, found most favour, was so much coveted by Captain Williams' successor that he offered to give in exchange for her any two and a-half couples of his bitch pack. Nor did either Sir David or Sir Alexander ever rue the day on which they enlisted the services of John Atkinson, whose name, through his ability as a huntsman, uprightness and honesty of character and kindness of disposition, recalls fond memories to many

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

of the sportsmen connected with the three Scottish packs which he hunted in turn—the Lothian, the Lothians, and the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire.

In 1868 Sir David Baird was compelled, in consequence of the state of his health, to retire from the management, leaving the entire charge to his colleague, Sir Alexander Kinloch, who continued alone for one season, but at its close intimated his resignation, just about the time when, as already stated, Colonel Gillon gave up the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire country.

To fill satisfactorily the vacancies thus created was no easy matter, and the supporters of both Hunts therefore met in common council,¹ believing that in doing so they would best arrive at the most advantageous arrangement possible for the future hunting of the two countries. Within a short time it was decided that, subject to the approval of the landed proprietors and owners of coverts, an endeavour should be made to hunt the entire district with one establishment, in consequence of which resolution Atkinson was engaged as huntsman, and the refusal of the Golfhall kennels was secured.² As yet, however, no master had been found, and it was not until after the Earl of Haddington, then Lord Binning, Captain Sandilands, and Colonel M'Barnet of Torridon had

¹ Minute-book, vol. i. p. 5.

² These arrangements were made by Mr Thomas Drybrough, Mr James Turnbull, Mr Ford, Hardengreen, and Mr James Hope, Easter Duddingston.—Minute-book, vol. i. p. 2.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

been asked, but without success, to undertake the management,¹ that Mr H. W. Hope of Luffness intimated his willingness to do so. The acceptance of Mr Hope's offer was the beginning of a new era in the history of the hunting of the Lothians, for with it the Lothian Hunt became extinct, never to be resuscitated, while once more the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire temporarily ceased to exist, and the white collar, which in the Hunt's infancy had adorned its scarlet, and at this period had "braved the battle and the breeze" without interruption for close on half a century, gave place to the blue of the Lothians Hunt. Mr Hope undertook to hunt the combined countries three days a-week for one season,² the subscription to be £1800 and the master to be relieved of all expenses connected with coverts and damages; and at his suggestion there were formed, in addition to a large general committee,³ a covert and also a

¹ Minute-book, vol. i. p. 5.

² Mr Hope's mastership eventually lasted for two seasons. In his second season a fourth day a-week at his discretion was agreed to.—Minute-book, vol. i. p. 31.

³ The following were named as members of the general committee, Minute-book, vol. i. p. 11 :—

The Earl of Dalkeith.
The Earl of Stair.
The Earl of Hopetoun.
Viscount Melville.
Lord Binning.
Lord Schomberg Kerr.
Sir William Baillie of Polkemmet.
Sir Hew Dalrymple of Luchie.
Sir James Gardiner Baird of Saughton-hall.
Sir David Baird of Newbyth.
The master, Mr Hope of Luffness.
Mr Ritchie of Middleton.

Mr George Mitchell-Innes of Bangour.
Major Shairp of Houstoun.
Mr Macfie of Clermiston.
Major Hamilton of Cathlaw.
Colonel Gillon of Wallhouse.
Captain Hay-Newton.
Mr Ford, Hardengreen.
Mr James Hope, Easter Duddingston.
Mr Claud Hamilton, Prestonhall.
Mr James Craig, Craigesk.
Mr Thomas Drybrough.
Mr James Turnbull.



MR HENRY WALTER HOPE OF LUFFNESS.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

finance committee for each of the three Lothians, and a finance committee for the city of Edinburgh, Mr T. E. O. Horne being appointed honorary secretary and treasurer.¹ The negotiations with Mr Hope, however, very nearly broke over his stipulation that he should be relieved of claims for damages—those who were deputed to treat with him being of opinion that hundreds of pounds would not satisfy these if they were gone into in the manner he suggested. But in this they were wrong, since, during the two seasons in which Mr Hope remained in office, all claims were investigated and settled for the small sum of about £30.²

The territory of the Lothians Hunt was an extensive one, for it embraced not only the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire and East Lothian countries, but also a considerable part of the Duke of Buccleuch's Dalkeith and Stow country which was now lent by his Grace to Mr Hope. In other words, the area overtaken reached from Dunbar in East Lothian to Falkirk in West Lothian, and from Edinburgh to Stow in Mid-Lothian, being thus between fifty and sixty miles in length, and between twenty and thirty in breadth. In order to hunt so large a tract of country thoroughly, a strong pack was essential, and by the commencement of the ensuing season, the kennels at Golfhall

¹ At first Mr Thomas Drybrough was appointed treasurer, but very soon resigned in favour of Mr Horne.—Minute-book, vol. i, pp. 13 and 18.

² Letter from Mr Hope to the author, dated 8th February 1908.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

were occupied by over fifty couples of working hounds. These consisted partly of Colonel Gillon's pack, which, after being advertised for sale,¹ had been purchased by Mr Hope, partly of the Lothian pack, which, although then still belonging to a few members of the Lothian Hunt, was eventually acquired by the master, and partly of drafts from Lord Middleton's, the Cotswold, the Shropshire, and other kennels; while, later, further drafts were obtained chiefly from the Atherstone, the Berkeley, Mr Meynell Ingram's, and the Duke of Beaufort's.

In the hunting of so large a district from one kennel, long distances to covert were inevitable, and Mr Hope introduced the use of a hound-van by which the Hunt servants and the pack were conveyed to the more distant fixtures. By this means, and through the division of the Hunt horses into two lots, one of which was stabled at Golfhall and the other at Easter Duddingston, near Portobello, much of the tear and wear which would otherwise have resulted, was saved. But although Mr Hope eased the establishment in this manner, he did not spare himself, and during his mastership travelled great distances both before

¹ THE LINLITHGOW AND STIRLINGSHIRE FOXHOUNDS.

This old established Pack, the property of A. GILLON, Esq. of WALL-HOUSE, is for Sale by Private Contract, and may be seen at LAURIESTON KENNELS near POLMONT STATION, on the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway.

Offers will be received by Messrs Glen & Henderson, Solicitors, Linlithgow, until April 5.

—'The Field,' 20th March 1869.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

and after hunting, and frequently in the saddle. To ride from Luffness to some fixture in the west of Linlithgowshire before drawing covert is a performance which would probably not be readily undertaken by the great majority of the hunting men of the present day, yet Mr Hope accomplished such journeys, and, in so doing, evinced his energy and powers of endurance. It was often dark when he left home in the morning, and dark again, or nearly so, before he reached the kennels in the evening, after which he frequently rode on alone through Edinburgh to Luffness, a distance of twenty-one miles.

The first notable run during Mr Hope's mastership took place on the 13th of November (1869), when the hounds met at Saltoun old kennels in East Lothian. After a turn or two round the covert at Windy-Mains, "the property of that staunch supporter of fox-hunting, Lord Hope-toun,"¹ hounds broke towards Costerton park, but swinging to the left, crossed the water, and carried on by the red scar to Blackshiels glen, where the fox was headed. From this they ran a ring by Fala Hall and the farm of Upper Keith, eventually taking the line back to Blackshiels glen. On leaving it for the second time they went away by Fala Flow to Soutra hill, then bending to the right, crossed Dun Law, and ran on by Gilston, Brotherstone, Nether Brotherstone, and Clints—the field gradually becoming more and more select,

¹ The sixth Earl of Hopetoun.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

in consequence of the pace, the boggy ground, and the distance traversed. From Clints the line lay by Middle Town and Nether Town to Troquhan on Gala Water, where hounds pulled down their fox after a chase of two hours and twenty minutes. The distance from point to point is stated at thirteen miles, and as hounds ran, at not less than seventeen, while out of a field of fifty, only about ten, including Atkinson and one of the whippers-in, were present at the finish.¹ This run was the precursor of many others almost equally good, among which may be mentioned one from a fixture at Ecclesmachan village on the 17th of February (1870). The coverts lying to the south of Nancy's hill held a fox which hounds pursued, with only one slight check, over much of the best of the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire country, running by the Braes o' Mar, Little Ochiltree, Hangingside, Ochiltree mill, Longmuir, the Riccarton hills, Wairdlaw, B'ormie, Cockleroi, and Lochcote, to Wallhouse Desert, thence across the Avon into Stirlingshire, and by Muiravonside to Manuel House, where they marked to ground in a drain under the avenue. The time is stated to have been one hour and thirty-five minutes, during which the pack was only once handled, while the distance traversed must have been fully fourteen miles.²

The Marquis of Queensberry, who, with Joe

¹ 'Edinburgh Evening Courant,' 23rd November 1869.

² Ibid., 24th February 1870.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

Graham as his huntsman, was showing excellent sport in Dumfriesshire about this time, had a day with the Lothians Hounds in the beginning of the year 1870, and experienced all the unpleasantness of getting "bogged." His lordship's visit was quickly followed by an invitation to Mr Hope to bring his hounds to Dumfriesshire, and this having been accepted, the pack, accompanied by Mr James Hope, Easter Duddingston, and the Hunt servants, travelled to Lockerbie by an early train on the 7th of February, met at Castlemilk, hunted, and returned home in the evening. The sport does not appear to have been of a high order, but the presence of one pack of hounds in the country of another being an event out of the common, the incidents of the day are commemorated in verse.

THE LOTHIAN HOUNDS IN DUMFRIESSHIRE.

You wish me to write of our sport on Monday ;
In plain words you ask me to write—Oh ! man, dae,—
And give an account of the meet in my letter.
I will, Bob—but wish that the run had been better.

I left thee in the lane when the clock struck eight,
And just before eleven reached Castlemilk gate,
Where a host of booted grooms stood, every one ready
To hold my horse,—Wo-ho ! my boy, wo-ho ! then, mare, stand
steady.
So off I jumped to stroll about, and warm my chilly feet,
When Jardine¹ asked me in to lunch although there was "nae
meat."

¹ The late Sir Robert Jardine of Castlemilk.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

I went. I had a biscuit, a sandwich, and some wine;
Admired the hall and praised the view, and vowed the whole was
"fine,"

But ere I had but half got through the subject of my talk,
A host of scarlet horsemen came dashing up the walk.
The Marquis¹ first, with Mr Hope,² and Johnstone Douglas³ near,
Then Yorstoun,⁴ Critchley,⁵ Johnstone,⁶ Munn and Graham⁷ in
the rear.

And then the grooms with horses led made up a perfect crowd—
A gallant show, of which, I'm sure, his lordship felt full proud.
And now a lot of black coats are seen approaching fast,—
Kirkpatrick of West Roucan—aye first, but never last,—
And Davie Dobie o' the Parks,⁸ and Cadien, and Cowar,
And young Bell Irving,⁹ and Dryfeholm,¹⁰ and others from afar,
Whose names alone would fill this page and take up too much
time,

Besides I might not manage just to make them suit the rhyme.
So I'll just give my pen "a lift" and "forrard on" a bit,
And tell you—fifty men were there, and every man was fit
To "follow to the death," nor care for fear a straw.
The hounds here trotted off—the word, "Duke's coverts"¹¹ you're
to draw ;"

In went the hounds, and "Silence, please," the Marquis gave the
word.

He was obeyed—we silent stood—but not a sound was heard,
No welcome whimper, not a whine, much less the opening clang,
But just the cracking of the whips and the huntsman's lonely
twang.

¹ The eighth Marquis of Queensberry, master of the Dumfriesshire Hounds.

² Mr H. W. Hope of Luffness, master of the Lothians Hounds.

³ Mr Arthur Johnstone-Douglas of Lockerbie.

⁴ Mr Carthew-Yorstoun of East Tinwald.

⁵ Mr Asheton Critchley.

⁶ Mr John Johnstone of Halleaths, afterwards master of the Dumfriesshire Hounds.

⁷ Joe Graham, huntsman to the Dumfriesshire Hounds.

⁸ Mr David Dobie, Tinwald Parks.

⁹ Mr David Bell Irving, master of the Dumfriesshire Otter-hounds.

¹⁰ Mr James Jardine of Dryfeholm.

¹¹ The Duke of Buccleuch's coverts, near Ecclefechan.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

“Drawn blank,”—“No, surely not”—“It surely cannot be”—
“Just wait a bit”—“That corner there”—“Hold on, we’ll
quickly see.”

Alas! ’tis true, they’re through it all, but not a fox is there,
But here and there a rabbit bolts, and now and then a hare.
“Hark back.” So back we went the very way we came,—
A little disappointed, but for further sport quite game.
We drew a moss,—we drew a moor,—we drew a little wood,—
We never found a fox at all, but always hoped we should.
And now, the sinking sun began to hint the day was past,
When, where we might have drawn at first, we went to draw at last.
The hounds are in,—and now—ah! listen—hush—oh, hark—
They’ve found, by Jove!—Whooi! Listen lads, that’s Ranter’s
opening bark,
They’re on him, boys—keep quiet now, and let him get a start.
Whooi! Tally Ho! Whooi! Gone away—that warms a fellow’s
heart.

One galloped, all galloped o’er grass and o’er lea,
No mortals were ever more happy than we,
For o’er fence and through gap did we dash on our way,
Each striving to be the first man of the day.
The Annan is reached, and here the fox turns,
The hounds aren’t bothered—the scent really burns.
“He’s away to the right, towards the Lockerbie road,”
There’s a big “post and rail,” and a ditch pretty broad.
The “first flight” are over, and so’s Irving Bell,
Who gallantly charged it and—gallantly fell;
But he rose and remounted, unhurt, as we found,
In the meanwhile the hounds had run reynard to ground.
No time did we lose, as we’d no time to spare,
But back to the covert we rode then and there,
A view screech was given—another was heard,—
At a bank with a top-rail our horses we spurred,
We jumped into covert, and thence through a gate,
A hasty glance showed us we’d no time to wait,
For the hounds streamed away through the wood o’er a
lane

Whilst their music made all the woods echo again.
“He’s headed”—“They’ve changed”—“Where is he?”
—“Not there”—

The fact was apparent—we’d started a pair,

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

So both got away, whilst the field stood confused,
And doubtless now laugh at the dodges they used.
We made a few casts, and we drew a fresh wood,
Each hound tried his utmost, but all to no good ;
As 'twas now getting late, and a long way to home,
And my horses' sleek coats were all lathered with foam,
I bade them "Good-night," "Good speed," and "Adieu,"
"Good luck and strong foxes," and "Blank Days" but few:
So here let us drink to both master and men,
May we soon see the Lothians huntsmen again.

B.

CASTLEMILK, 7th February 1870.

Afterwards, Lord Queensberry brought his hounds north to have a day in the Lothians country, but a hard frost set in overnight, and hunting was found to be impossible.

Mr Hope possesses memorials of his term of office which probably outrival in completeness those of any other master whose reign falls within the scope of this history,—documents of every description, including even the cards intimating the fixtures and lists of the individual hounds taken into the field on each particular hunting day, having been carefully preserved. Of all these records, not the least interesting is Mr Hope's hunting diary, in two volumes, neatly kept for him by the late Mr Alexander Scott who, for many years, was secretary at Hopetoun House and was himself a good sportsman. This, besides chronicling the sport during the seasons of 1869 and 1870, gives many interesting particulars. It shows that—exclusive of cub-hunting, of which there is no record—twelve and a half

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

brace of foxes were killed in the first of these seasons and fourteen brace in the second; that notwithstanding the large pack in kennel, Mr Hope was somewhat short of hounds in the spring of 1871, and had to borrow five couples from Forfarshire and the same number from Fife; and that on the 12th of April of the same year, the young hounds were judged by Lord Wemyss, Sir Thomas Erskine of Cambo, and Mr Andrew Fletcher of Saltoun. Other names, chiefly those of hunting visitors, occur from time to time, and in addition to Lord Queensberry, who has already been referred to, Lord Melville, Mr Adrian Hope, Captain Reynardson, Colonel Dundas, and Lord and Lady Morton are mentioned as having been out hunting on one side of the country or the other. The diary also speaks of the occasional use of the "Hunt special"; of not leaving off hunting till quite dark; and of Mr Hope's long rides to covert:—

1870. Feb. 8. Haddington.—Hounds by 7 A.M. train. Self rode from Edinburgh.

1870. Dec. 1. Bangour.—From Archerfield, 7.35 A.M., at Bangour, 10.45 A.M., with four hacks.

1871. Mch. 9. Westwood.—Self rode from Edinburgh and back.

When Mr Hope retired in 1871, he was presented with a silver and gold cup as a token of the appreciation felt by the subscribers to the Hunt of his management as master, for, although

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

his term of office had been a short one and, according to his own statement, considerable help had been received by him from Mr James Hope, Mr T. E. O. Horne, and Mr Alexander Scott, he had hunted the country with much energy and success, and on a scale of liberality approaching magnificence. The presentation was made in Slaney's hotel in Edinburgh, on the 5th of April, when Colonel Shairp of Houstoun acted as spokesman for the subscribers.¹

The fact that Mr Hope had resolved to resign his mastership at the end of the season had been known for nearly a year prior to the date of the presentation, and for quite eight months before a meeting of the Hunt held on the 18th of January 1871, when, no new master having been found to hunt the whole territory as it had been hunted during the two preceding seasons, Mr Hope suggested that the district should be curtailed by giving up that part of it lying to the east of the eastern boundary of the Duke of Buccleuch's Dalkeith country, and that the remainder should be hunted under a committee of management three days a-week. This recommendation, although ultimately adopted, did not at first meet with general approval, and it was agreed to disjoin the two countries,—the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire and the East Lothian—and hunt them separately as before, Sir David

¹ 'Edinburgh Evening Courant,' 6th April 1871.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

Baird and Mr Hope being deputed to inform the Duke of Buccleuch of this resolution, and to request him to draw a line of boundary between the two Hunts in Mid-Lothian. Sir David and Mr Hope, however, considering that the Duke would probably prefer not to be asked to interfere, took upon themselves the responsibility of inviting the late Colonel Anstruther Thomson, then for the third time master of the Atherstone Hounds, to act as arbiter, and of laying the matter before him. The various points referred to Colonel Thomson may be gathered from his decision, which was couched in the following terms:—

DECISION BY MR ANSTRUTHER THOMSON.

The Linlithgow and Stirlingshire and the East Lothian were two distinct Hunts previous to 1869. They were then united under one master, who was bound to hunt the whole of both countries.

On his resignation (unless the union has existed twenty years) either Hunt is at liberty to make any new arrangement for itself.

According to the rule of Masters of Hounds' Committee at Boodles, twenty years constitutes a right of possession.

The boundaries of the respective Hunts are the same as they were before the union.

According to the boundaries marked on Mr Hope's map, part of the old Dalkeith country lies between the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire and East Lothian countries. If this is to be divided, I think Stow and Carfrae Mill should belong to

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

East Lothian, Penicuik, &c., to Linlithgow and Stirlingshire ; but I am not sufficiently well acquainted with the country to define the exact boundary.

Either Hunt, whether they have hounds of their own or not, may lend part of their country, on the express undertaking that it is to be restored when required.

(Signed) J. ANSTRUTHER THOMSON.

ATHERSTONE, February 22, 1871.¹

Soon after Colonel Thomson's verdict had been received, it was ascertained that there was no prospect of the Lothian Hunt being reorganised, and then, but not till then, the Duke of Buccleuch was formally applied to for a loan of the Dalkeith country. This, under reservation of Dalkeith park, which had never previously been included in lending the country, was readily given by his Grace,² and arrangements were accordingly made for the hunting of the Lothians Hunt territory as curtailed in the manner suggested by Mr Hope. Under these arrangements a committee, consisting of Mr Hope, Colonel Shairp, Colonel Gillon, Colonel M'Barnet, Captain Wauchope, younger of Niddrie, and Mr James Hope, Easter Duddingston, was formed for the purpose of carrying on the Hunt for the next two seasons or until a master willing to take the sole responsibility could be obtained,—Mr James Hope agreeing to act as master both in the kennel and in the

¹ Papers at Dalkeith House.

² The Stow country appears to have been included in the territory lent by the Duke.



MR JAMES HOPE.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

field, and to hunt the country three days a-week, with a subscription of £1500¹ and relief of covert-rents, damages, &c.

During the existence of the Lothian Hunt, first under the mastership of Mr Fletcher, and afterwards under that of Sir David Baird and Sir Alexander Kinloch, Mr James Hope had taken an active interest in the hunting of the Haddingtonshire country, and when the union with the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire Hunt was effected, he increased rather than diminished his efforts on behalf of the Hunt and in the cause of sport. Throughout these changes Mr Hope had "bided his time," as he expresses it, and now that this time had come, put his shoulder to the wheel more strenuously than before in order to accomplish in a satisfactory manner the work he had undertaken. His term of office, which lasted for six seasons, may be characterised as a reign of sport; and although he derived considerable assistance and support from his fellow members of committee, and at first doubtless reaped no little benefit from the labours of his predecessor in office, Mr Hope of Luffness, who had initiated the system of hunting the three Lothians as one country, it is probably no exaggeration to state that the ultimate success of his mastership was entirely due to his

¹ This sum was guaranteed by Mr Hope of Luffness for two years.—Statement by Mr Hope, dated January 18, 1871, and Minute-book, vol. i. p. 78.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

own energy, good management, and sportsmanlike conduct of affairs.

As has been indicated, Mr Hope of Luffness had been at some pains in getting together a good working pack of hounds. This he generously placed at the disposal of the Hunt committee until the following spring (1872), when the hounds were purchased from him by Colonel Shairp, Colonel Gillon, Colonel M'Barnet, Captain Wauchope, and Mr James Hope.¹ To endeavour to keep the pack up to a proper standard was a pleasure to the new master as well as a duty, and in addition to the hounds bred at home, many useful drafts were procured by him from time to time, although none proved to be of more value than that which year after year found its way from Badminton to Golfhall—a present from the Duke of Beaufort to his brother sportsman in the north.

Unlike Mr Hope of Luffness, Mr James Hope has preserved no records of his time. Fortunately, however, there were several sportsmen, such as Mr William Blackwood, Mr T. E. O. Horne, and Mr Charles Murray Barstow who, through the medium of the newspapers, helped to chronicle the sport enjoyed at this period. Both Mr Blackwood and Mr Horne had good horses, and when the former was riding Lady Emma, Captain Hicks, or Primrose, and the latter Bondy or Jumbo, they were generally there or thereabouts when hounds ran. After any particularly good day's hunting

¹ Minute-book, vol. i. pp. 68 and 112.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

they would dine together for the purpose of writing an account of it, in order that this might appear in print on the following morning; and Mr Thomas Horne, Mr T. E. O. Horne's son, tells how the composition of these accounts used to amuse him, for on such occasions both sportsmen were generally tired and sleepy. Mr Blackwood usually took the pen, but seemed to have considerable difficulty in beginning, for after looking thoughtfully at the paper before him for some time, he would ask, "How shall I start?" "Well, wouldn't you mention where hounds met?" "All right, I've got that; what shall I put next?" "Oh, then, I think I'd say where they found"—and so on to the end; a result satisfactory to both being arrived at only after a long sederunt.

During the spring of the year 1872, Mr Barstow contributed to 'The Edinburgh Courant' a series of Letters, afterwards reprinted in book form.¹ These, as the preface to the reprint bears, were written merely with a view to amusing the author and his younger compeers, but they are none the less interesting as records of sport; while the following passage, which occurs in the last of the series, reveals divertingly the writer's sense of satisfaction with his own performances in the field:—

"It was now put to me by the master why, celebrating the deeds of others, I have hidden myself so entirely. My answer was, '*Of their own merits modest men are dumb.*' But this

¹ 'Days with the Lothians Hounds,' by an "Old Sportsman," 1872.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

should not close my mouth against a word in favour of my brown mare, Lady Lorne. . . . She made good her character to the admiration of many, and refreshed mine, *though it was never much tarnished by long tear and wear. She kept me in first flight from find to finish, as was well seen and much remarked.*"

The words in italics are underlined in the Minute-book, and opposite them, in the handwriting of Mr T. E. O. Horne, is the amusing comment "Oh Barstow, you Trumpeter!" But it is right to mention that although the "Old Sportsman" plumed himself in this way, he really rode to hounds very well considering his years, and did generously commemorate the doings of others. Thus he tells of Mr Blackwood's well-known leap on Lady Emma over the railway gates near Drumshoreland, describing the circumstances as follows:—

"This [a branch railway] was enclosed by a high and strong wire fence utterly 'unnegotiable.' There was a level crossing, but shut off by a high and strong white-painted gate on either side of the rail. Not probably thinking of the danger, one of our very determined riders went at the gate over on to the rails. His mare flew it beautifully—many anticipating a heavy fall; but over again he went the opposite gate also, landing from both safely. Had the mare touched the gate either with fore or hind legs, she must have brought herself as well as rider to grief. But he had

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

confidence in his mare and she did not disappoint him."

In point of fact, Mr Blackwood dismounted after jumping the first gate, hoping to be able to open the second, but finding this impossible, remounted, and then jumped it also after the delay thus occasioned—a circumstance which very much enhances the performance. Mr Barstow also graphically relates how on one occasion, when both Atkinson and the first whipper-in, Harry Wells, were laid up, George Tait,¹ the kennelman, acted as huntsman.

"This day [25th January, 1872] commenced with a very amusing turnout. Atkinson, having a careful wife, had been vaccinated to preserve his good looks. His arm swelled the size of his leg, and he could not get upon his horse. Harry, the first whip, was laid up with a bad cold and sore throat, caught looking after the lost hounds amongst the Moorfoot hills. The second whip was to the fore, but as no one was there whom the hounds would recognise, George, the kennelman, was mounted. A capital figure! A very tall man, clad in grey, wearing a hunting cap to distinguish his calling. He rode with long legs and very short stirrups, his knees up to his nose, and his heels spurring almost the back of his horse, instead of its flanks; and spur away he did to try to keep the hounds together, who very soon discovered their chief was wanting. What a splendid caricature might have

¹ Now kennelman in the Duke of Buccleuch's establishment.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

been drawn of ‘Ye Lothians Hounds and their Huntsman!’”

Towards the end of the year 1874 Mr Hope intimated his resignation. The following letters¹ which he received at the time from Colonel Anstruther Thomson and Lord Haddington indicate the high estimation in which he was held by these well-known sportsmen, and perhaps tended to induce him to reconsider his decision:—

CHARLETON, 6th December [1874].

MY DEAR HOPE,—I am sorry to hear that you meditate resigning at the end of the season. I hope you won't, for you do more for sport than any master I have seen there, or am likely to see. . . .—Ever yours truly,

JOHN ANSTRUTHER THOMSON.

TYNINGHAME, PRESTONKIRK,
December 10th, 1874.

MY DEAR HOPE,—I am extremely sorry to hear that you have determined to give up the mastership of the Lothians Hounds, and I only hope that you may still change your mind and go on a “bit” longer. . . .—I remain, Yours very truly,

HADDINGTON.

Eventually Mr Hope did change his mind, for he continued in office until the end of the season of 1876, the only alteration in the previous arrangement being that the subscription was increased to £1800—£1700 guaranteed,—and that the Stow country was given up to a great extent.

¹ Letters in the possession of Mr Hope.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

It is almost impossible to tell from the perusal of a number of descriptions of runs with hounds, which represents what was really the best hunt, for an inferior run may be “puffed” in such a way as to make it appear equal to or even better than a superior one simply and truthfully recorded. As regards the many runs chronicled during the seasons 1871 to 1876,—a time when sport was above the average, and second only perhaps to that which signalised the mastership of Mr W. R. Ramsay,—Mr Hope, who is well qualified to speak, states that he considers that those after described or referred to may be classed among the best. In his first season, on the 29th of February 1872, hounds met at Ecclesmachan, and, finding in the covert near the village, went away at once and at a great pace by Drumforth to the Braes o’ Mar. Touching the covert there they bent westwards, crossed the road leading to Bridge-end, and ran as if for the badger-earths at Champfleurie, but, just skirting the young covert on the side of the Haugh burn, wheeled almost at a right angle, and leaving Wester Ochiltree on their left, reached the base of Riccarton hill. The pace up to this point had been very severe, and the fox, instead of facing the steep incline in front of him, turned towards Beecraigs,—hounds throwing their tongues freely as they drove forward on the old grass. From Beecraigs they stretched away over the plough to Hillhouse quarries, and running the farm-road down to the Preston park-wall,

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

continued along the northern side of Cockleroi, through Williamsraig, the Kettleston plantations, and Belsyde, to Woodcockdale cottage, where they crossed the Avon. On the Stirlingshire side of the river they dwelt a little in the wooded banks of the Union canal, but almost immediately ran on, threading the Muiravonside policies from east to west, and going away again on the far side from Bowhouse, over the farm of Redford, and thence to Torphichen bridge, where the first and only check occurred. But Atkinson was at hand to help his hounds, and when he cast them, they recovered the line and carried it up the banks of the river to the old steel or spade mill at Crawhill, beyond which they could no longer own it, and a fine run ended somewhat unsatisfactorily. The distance from point to point is stated to have been about nine miles, and at least twelve as hounds ran; the time, from the find to the check at Torphichen bridge, one hour and ten minutes.¹

Meeting at Torwood, in Stirlingshire, on the 11th of January 1873, Mr Hope was told that he *might* find a fox, but that it would take him all day to get him away from the covert, a wood of some five hundred acres in extent. Nevertheless, a fox was found at once, and before man and horse were well away, the pack was racing, with a burning scent, over the open towards West Plean. The country being strange to all and strongly fenced, it was

¹ 'Edinburgh Courant,' 7th March 1872.



1872.

Photo by Horsburgh, Edinburgh.

JOHN ATKINSON.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

no easy matter to live with hounds at the pace at which they were travelling, and after twenty minutes' hard riding they were completely lost sight of. Information received from a ploughman, however, enabled Atkinson to get to them, and put them on the line, when, after a little slow hunting, they again ran at a good pace over a beautiful although stiff line of country, until, at the end of an hour and ten minutes they pulled their fox down, in the open, close to the historic plain of Bannockburn.¹

From Cliftonhall to Torebanehill cannot be said ever to have been a usual line, and it is one which would now be almost impossible; yet on the 13th of November 1873, hounds accomplished the journey at a fair pace over all, while at times they ran fast. In Sir Alexander Maitland's coverts, three foxes were on foot, and after one of these had been run to ground, another, which had been seen to cross the Almond, was pushed up from a gorse on the western bank of the river. The line,—to which hounds settled well,—lay by Illiston, Amondell, Drumshoreland wood, Pumpherston coverts, Houstoun wood, Howden, Livingston coverts, Cousland, Blackburn House, over the moss below Starlaw and South Inch, across the Blackburn and Bathgate road, down to and up the banks of the Almond near Reddock, and thereafter, with many twists and turns, to Torbanehill, where the fox got to ground. “*Point about thirteen miles; as hounds*

¹ ‘Edinburgh Courant,’ 14th January 1873.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

ran, nearly double," is perhaps a liberal computation, but the run must have been a long and severe one for both hounds and horses,—one horse is stated to have died at Bathgate from the effects of it,—for the country rode deep, and the fences were numerous.¹

In the Stow country, which generally produced stout foxes, much good sport was enjoyed, and on the 16th of March 1874, a fine hill run, with a point of some seven or eight miles, took place. From the crags at Craigend the pack went away at best pace straight to Little Catpair, and crossing the Cockum water, breasted Catpair hill. Lauderdale seemed to be the fox's point, for a mile and a half farther on hounds entered Berwickshire near Inchkeith, and leaving Inchkeith hill on their right, turned away from Pilmuir, over Bowerhouse, towards Collielaw. With the pace unabated, Airhouse, Butterdean, and Channelkirk were in turn reached and passed, and pressing on by Kirtonhill and Glengelt, hounds pulled down their fox in the open opposite Turflaw, "after a splendid run of one hour and twenty minutes over the stiffest and steepest of these hills, the pace throughout, tremendous." The brush was presented to Mr Milne of Faldonside, the oldest sportsman present, who, it is stated, rode capitally on his white mare, while Messrs Bertram, White, Harpers, and Marks also went well, and after the

¹ 'Edinburgh Courant,' 18th November 1873.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

run, guided Atkinson and his hounds back over the hills to Stow.¹

Owing to the frost of the two previous days, it seemed doubtful whether it would be possible to hunt at Crookston on the 24th of November 1874, but those who attended the fixture did not regret having done so, for hounds ran well for two hours, and although the distance traversed is not recorded, the point could hardly have been less than ten miles. Finding in Mr Borthwick's young covert, hounds went away to Hoppringle, but doubling back, ran through Crookston and by Clints hill to Brotherstone. Then turning north over Soutra hill, they ran on as if for Blackshiels high covert, but not entering it, bore away towards Cakemuir Castle, which they passed on their left, and continued by Frosty Neb, over Saughland and Crichton Mains to the village of Pathhead. There the fox was so hard pressed that he took refuge on the roof of one of the houses, but being dislodged, was pursued to the banks of the Tyne, where he was rolled over in the open.²

In snow and sleet a goodly number of sportsmen met hounds at Westwood on the 3rd of February 1876. The previous night had been one of high wind and pelting rain, and it was therefore not surprising that several of Captain Steuart's coverts were drawn blank. But neither did this nor a con-

¹ 'Edinburgh Courant,' 18th March 1874.

² Ibid., 27th November 1874.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

tinuance of the stormy weather depress Atkinson, whose spirits were wont to rise under difficulties, and whose countenance, when throwing his hounds into "the Wilderness" near Bellsquarry on this occasion, beamed as with a consciousness of the thorough manner in which they were to acquit themselves throughout the impending fine run. The cry with which the covert resounded only died away as the pack broke from it and settled to the line of their fox, which—big, wiry, and grey—had gone eastwards by the village. The few intervening fields were quickly left behind, and from the wood at Bellsquarry hounds ran south across the Caledonian railway and through the Murieston strips; then bending by Hermand and again by the Limefield glen, they ran on to Westwood, where they crossed the flooded Breich water near the railway bridge. From this point they stretched away by Foulshiels across the Morningside and Coltness railway, and so to Polkemmet, where the fox, which had gone to ground in a rabbit burrow, was dug out and given to them, and in the absence of Sir William Baillie, his brother, who had taken part in the run, refreshed the sportsmen present. The distance from Bellsquarry wood to Polkemmet—nine miles as the crow flies, and perhaps half as much again as hounds ran—was accomplished in an hour and forty minutes, during which hounds were neither lifted nor cast, nor was there the semblance of a check.¹

¹ 'Edinburgh Courant,' 7th February 1876.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

The 10th of February 1877 was celebrated by another fine run, and although the span from find to finish was less than in some of the runs already described, the distance which hounds travelled was probably greater. Oatridge was the fixture, and a very large field, including the master (Mr Hope), Lord Hopetoun, afterwards Marquis of Linlithgow, Colonel Shairp and Colonel Gillon, received a kindly welcome from the well-known and popular tenant-farmer and good sportsman, Mr Thomas Young. Hounds found quickly in the covert on the Braes o' Mar and as quickly went away, running almost straight to Kingscavil, and thence, after a short check, over Nancy's hill and by Ochiltree Castle and Mochrie's whin as if for Longmuir. Leaving that on their right, they passed Ochiltree mill, crossed the old grass of West Binny at a great pace, and ran on by Blackcraig and Bangour towards Dechmont, but swinging right-handed, continued by Drumcross, Whitelaw and Gala Braes to Ballencrieff wood. From this two fresh foxes went away, and an exchange might have taken place, had not Lord Hopetoun, who viewed the hunted fox, holloaed hounds on to his line. Recovering it, they streamed away by Bishopbrae, Hilderston, Wallhouse craigs, and Wallhouse to Wallace's cave, and hunting down the banks of the Avon, crossed it at Wallhouse Desert and went on as if for Muiravonside. Recrossing the river near Carribber however, they doubled back towards

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

the Desert, just outside which they had the satisfaction of breaking up their fox after a chase of fully two hours.¹

At Houstoun, on the 24th of February 1877, Mr Hope carried the horn, for, a few days before, Atkinson had met with a serious accident, breaking his collar-bone, three ribs, and a toe, through his horse falling with him when galloping. Again "the Wilderness" near Bellsquarry held a good fox, and again a long run from it ensued,—the pack and the master, in his capacity of huntsman, acquitting themselves with much credit. Rattling out of covert, hounds crossed the West Calder road and ran by Brucefield to Blackmire, through Limefield to Dovitshill, and, after a short check, by Parkhall, Muirhouse, Slateheugh, Birniehill, and Hartwood, to Kiprig. Wheeling from that to Mid Hartwood, they stretched away over the moorland, through rain and mist, to Baadsmill, and from that, across the Longhill burn to Wholestock, and from that again to Blawearly on the borders of Lanarkshire. Then turning eastwards, they repassed Baadsmill, and hunting steadily over Hartwood Mains and by Torphin, entered Harburn park, where, unromantically, in one of the steadings, this staunch fox breathed his last.²

Notwithstanding the good and at times even brilliant sport which was being shown, contributions to the Hunt funds came in slowly, and at

¹ 'Edinburgh Courant,' 13th February 1877.

² Ibid., 28th February 1877.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

the end of the season the receipts were, as a rule, insufficient to meet the expenditure. Thus a millstone, in the shape of a yearly increasing deficiency, began to hang heavily round the neck of the committee, and although more than one appeal for additional subscriptions was made, there was no satisfactory response. Therefore money had to be borrowed, and it would seem that in the long-run the debt was of necessity wiped out by those who should not have had to bear the burden. Under such circumstances, it is little to be wondered at that payments to account of the sum guaranteed to the master could not always be made when these were most required, and frequently Mr Hope had to lie out of his money for a considerable time. On one occasion when he happened to meet the honorary secretary and treasurer, he took the opportunity of asking for an instalment, but all that he got at the time was a good-natured slap on the shoulder, and "Damn it, man, Jimmie, we haven't collected it."

In the course of his mastership, Mr Hope, as was only natural, had through his hands a large number of horses. These, when sold, generally realised good prices, and Mr Hope says that one spring "the Hunt twenty" fetched an average price of 135 guineas, the highest among the various hunt sales of the year with the exception of the Cheshire. Snowdrop, Mullingar, Kilkenny, His Grace, Sir John, John Peel, and Moscow stand

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

out pre-eminently in Mr Hope's recollection as good performers in the field, and the first named, which was purchased from Mr John Brady, Redbarns, Armagh, in the summer of 1871, carried Atkinson so well in a good run from "the Wilderness" covert at Bellsquarry in the following December, that she shortly afterwards became the property of Colonel Gillon, who, not unmindful of some golden moments on her back, arranged that her likeness as well as his own should appear on the canvas painted by Gourlay Steel¹ some years later. One other horse is perhaps worthy of mention, not so much because of his good qualities as a hunter as on account of his having been the subject of one of the few bets which Mr Hope ever had. This was Volary by brother to Bird on the Wing dam by Barbatus, which as a three-year-old had run at Newmarket, but while Mr Hope's property usually carried a whipper-in. Possessed of a fair turn of speed, he was entered in the National Hunters Stakes at the Liverpool Spring Meeting of 1874, and at the price of six to one was well backed by his owner and many of his friends, among whom were several officers of the First Royal Dragoons then quartered at Piershill and hunting with the pack. To make a long story short, the whipper-in's horse won, and over his victory Mr Hope alone pocketed £600.

It need hardly be said that when Mr Hope's resignation was intimated to the Hunt committee

¹ *Vide* illustration, p. 208.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

in the beginning of the year 1877, it was received with the greatest regret. That his mastership should close without some outward sign of the approbation with which his labours were viewed was not possible, and at East Barnes, whither he removed some years later and now lives, there is a much-valued piece of silver plate bearing this inscription: "Presented by the Members of the Lothians Hunt to JAMES HOPE, Esq., Duddingston, in remembrance of the pleasant and excellent sport they enjoyed during his Mastership of the Lothians Fox-Hounds for a period of six years, 1871-1876." This and some other mementos of his term of office were handed to him at a luncheon which was given in his honour in the Balmoral Hotel, Edinburgh, on the 31st of October 1877, when the presentation, which was undertaken by Colonel Gillon, was witnessed by many approving and familiar faces, including those of the Earl of Haddington, Sir Arthur Halkett, Mr W. W. Anderson, Norton Mains; Mr Barstow, Mr Blackwood, Mr Tait Burton, Captain Carmichael, Mr Christie, Mr Craig, Dalkeith; Mr Drybrough, Mr Fletcher, Bangour; Mr Ford, Hardengreen; Mr Gibson, Cliftonhall; Mr Gray, Braehead; Colonel Hare of Calderhall, Mr Harper, Bridge-end; Mr T. E. O. Horne, Mr Hunter, Haugh; Mr George Mitchell-Innes, Mr Kerr, The Bloom; Mr Paterson of Bankton, Mr Riddell, Mr Arthur Robertson, Mr Alexander Robertson, Hoe-bridge, Melrose; Mr John Swan, Mr Usher, Captain

HISTORY OF THE L. & S. HUNT

Wauchope, Mr Wilson, Cowden ; and Mr Thomas Young, Oatridge.¹

Soon after Mr Hope's retirement it became apparent that it would be impossible, mainly owing to the insufficiency of the subscription, to continue to hunt the same extent of country as before, and it was accordingly resolved² that in the future the Dalkeith and Stow district should be relinquished, and that the remainder—the old Linlithgow and Stirlingshire country—should be hunted alone as it had been prior to the Union. Thus ended the Lothians Hunt and with it the many bright days by which its comparatively short existence was gladdened, first under the reign of Mr H. W. Hope of Luffness, and afterwards under that of Mr James Hope, Easter Duddingston.

¹ 'Edinburgh Courant,' 1st November 1877.

² Minute-book, vol. i. p. 161.

CHAPTER IX.

MAJOR WILLIAM JOHN WAUCHOPE OF NIDDRIE.

MR JAMES RUSSEL OF DUNDAS CASTLE.

MR JOHN GRAHAM MENZIES.

1877-1887.

MR HOPE's resignation having been formally accepted, it was suggested that Captain afterwards Major Wauchope of Niddrie, should undertake the mastership.¹ This eventually he agreed to do,² but it would seem that he came forward not so much from his own inclination as through a desire to oblige others, and in order to insure a continuance of the establishment. Of all persons he was probably the one who had the best right to the position, because, during the six preceding seasons he had not only hunted regularly, but had been recognised as master in the field³ in Mr Hope's absence.⁴

Captain Wauchope was the elder son of Mr

¹ Minute-book, vol. i. p. 158. ² Ibid., p. 162. ³ Ibid., p. 58.

⁴ During the six seasons over which his mastership extended, Mr Hope was prevented from being in his proper place upon three occasions only.—Letter from Mr Hope to the author, dated 13th June 1909.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

Andrew Wauchope of Niddrie, or Niddrie Marischal, in Mid-Lothian, and was at this time in his thirty-sixth year. At the age of eighteen he had entered the army as a cornet in the 16th Lancers, but eight years later, after having risen to the rank of captain, was transferred to the Inniskilling Dragoons, with which regiment he served until he retired in 1870. Within a few months of his retirement he married Miss Eleanor Grimston, now Mrs Goldfrap, the youngest daughter of the Rev. the Hon. Edward Grimston, a brother of the second Earl of Verulam, while on the death of his father, in 1874, he succeeded to the estate of Niddrie. Niddrie House, which lies about three miles to the south-east of Edinburgh, had occupied a fairly central position in the area hitherto hunted, but now that a considerable portion of that area was relinquished it did so no longer, inasmuch as the greater part of the country retained lay to the west of and beyond the kennels. These, although still at Golfhall, were nearly nine miles away, and therefore most of the master's horses as well as those of his wife—who hunted when the fixtures were convenient, and who rode extremely well to hounds—were stabled at the kennels, the journey thither being made out on wheels or by hacking.

Captain Wauchope agreed to hunt what, previously to the union with East Lothian, had formed the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire country, two days a-week, with a subscription of £1300,



MAJOR WILLIAM JOHN WAUCHOPE
OF NIDDRIE.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

promising to do his best to show sport and please every one.¹ In his endeavours to do so he was ably backed by his fellow-members of the Hunt committee—Colonel Gillon, Colonel Shairp, Colonel M'Barnet, Mr James Hope, and Lord Hopetoun, who, on his acceptance of office in 1880, was at once appointed chairman; while the energy and business capacity of Mr Horne, the honorary secretary and treasurer, were then, as they had been during the existence of the Lothians Hunt, always most helpful.

In consequence of the curtailment of the country it was no longer necessary to maintain the establishment on so large a scale as before, and accordingly the pack was reduced from about fifty to about thirty-five couples of working hounds, although in the year 1880 it was again raised to its former strength, mainly through the purchase, at Rugby, of three and a half couples of Lord Coventry's—Croome—hounds, and of eleven and a half of Mr Askew's²—Northumberland and Berwickshire—hounds, and through the putting forward of a fair number of young hounds bred at home. At this period very few hounds were bred at Golfhall, perhaps owing to a difficulty in getting satisfactory quarters for them, and it may have been for this reason that Captain Wauchope was

¹ Minute-book, vol. i. pp. 161 and 162.

² Mr Askew appears to have lent his hounds after the termination of his mastership of the Northumberland and Berwickshire Hunt, in 1871, to his successor, Sir John Marjoribanks. — *Vide* 'County Gentleman,' 24th April 1880.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

not unknown to walk puppies himself. In the first season of his mastership one of these happened to stray from Niddrie to Edmonstone, where, through a mistake, it came to an unfortunate and untimely end. For the estate joiner there, an old man named Alexander Glasgow, who had permission to carry a gun, and was very useful in frightening poachers and scaring away stray dogs, espied the puppy and, firing, wounded it so badly that it had to be destroyed. And the story goes that on being asked how it came about, Glasgow explained that he had no idea it was a fox-hound; that he thought it was "just a goose or some gigantic bird."

In addition to the usual members of the field,¹ many of the officers of the regiments quartered at Piershill and Edinburgh Castle, of the Royal Artillery, and of H.M.S. Lord Warden, hunted fairly regularly with the pack, and it is perhaps somewhat singular that it should have been in the first year of Captain Wauchope's term of office that his old regiment, the Inniskilling Dragoons, in which there were then still many of his former comrades, was sent to Edinburgh. That it so happened must have been a pleasure to him, and through the proximity of the barracks at Piershill to Niddrie he was probably enabled to see a good deal of them there as well as in the hunting field.

¹ A list of the subscribers, 1877-1909 inclusive, will be found in Appendix V.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

Atkinson still carried the horn, and allowing for the fact that the country had suffered somewhat through the working of the minerals in several estates, and through intersection in one way or another, sport was quite up to the average. On the 11th of December 1877, after meeting at Houstoun House, hounds ran well from Livingstone wood by Cousland to Seafield and thence, swinging left-handed across the Almond, by Bellsquarry and Williamston to Calder wood, where they rolled their fox over at the end of an hour and fifteen minutes without a check.¹ The fixture at Belstane on the 11th of March 1880, resulted in a long hunting run in which the distance covered must have been about twenty miles, although the farthest points touched are not more than seven miles apart. Breaking eastwards from Selms moor, hounds ran through Ormiston policies, bent right-handed by Belstane, crossed the Lanark road and water of Leith and eventually marked to ground in the rocks on Dalmahoy hill. To get the fox out took some time, but this having been accomplished he was turned down near Boll o' Bear, and after crossing and recrossing the Lanark road, was pursued by Ormiston, the railway junction near Oakbank, and Selms moor to the banks of the Linhouse water. From these, after a turn towards Morton, hounds went on by Burnbrae, Broadshaw, Limefield House, and the Wilderness covert to Bellsquarry wood where, "as the red

¹ 'Edinburgh Courant,' 12th December 1877.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

of the sunset had turned to grey," and as hounds were tired and horses dead beat, the chase was abandoned.¹

But Captain Wauchope's mastership was marked by two events distinct from the sport shown—a prolonged snow-storm and frost, happily as seasons go unusual, and the presence of royalty in the field. It was in the end of November 1878, that a spell of hard weather, which lasted for thirteen weeks, set in, and until it broke up in the following month of March, the hounds were hardly out of kennel.² Mrs Goldfrap remembers when, during this period, sport was impossible, going out with her husband and tracking a fox in the snow and riding home in the great cold with icicles on the horse's heads. The other event, the presence of royalty, occurred in the month of October 1880, when the Princess Mary of Cambridge and the Duke of Teck were the guests of the Countess of Hopetoun. The opening day, which seems to have been purposely accelerated, was fixed to take place at Hopetoun House on Tuesday the 19th of the month; and the master and his wife stayed there and met the Duke and Duchess. The Duke, who was mounted by Lord Hopetoun, was cautioned not to touch the horse lent to him behind the saddle, but forgetting the warning, did so, and was kicked off at the meet. Notwithstanding this mishap he rode with the hounds all day and, after a fair run, was present when they killed their

¹ 'The Field,' 20th March 1880.

² Minute-book, vol. i. p. 180.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

fox on the rocks near Port Edgar,¹ while the Princess Mary and Lady Hopetoun drove about in a Victoria phaeton, and appear to have stayed to the finish. "On Tuesday, their Royal Highnesses were present at the first meet for the season of the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire Fox-hounds which took place at Hopetoun House. Captain Wauchope of Niddrie, the master of the fox-hounds was present, and there was a large and distinguished gathering. In the run which followed the Princess Mary and the Countess of Hopetoun took part, and after a long and exciting chase, were in at the death."²

Like other foxes bred in the policies surrounding a large mansion, those at Hopetoun are not as a rule easily forced away, and have the reputation of being "ringy." Nevertheless many good hunts with fair points have begun in the coverts there, of which the run of the 9th of March of this year (1880) may be given as an instance. Hounds had not been long in Hopetoun big wood before a welcome "Gone away" rang out from the west end of the covert, and Atkinson quickly had his hounds on the line. Crossing the railway and canal at Craigton, they turned sharp to the right and traversed the fields lying to the north of the Edinburgh and Linlithgow road as far as Gateside. Then they ran the banks of the Haugh burn for a short distance, but wheeling left-handed breasted

¹ Minute-book, vol. i. p. 189.

² 'Edinburgh Courant,' 22nd October 1880.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

the steep incline to Longmuir at a tremendous pace, and turning from the north-west corner of the old covert, went on by Broomieknowes to B'ormie, through that, round Cockleroi, and back to B'ormie where they could no longer own the line. At the finish,—hounds had then effected a point of nearly six miles—Lord Hopetoun was heard to remark, “Who says Hopetoun foxes can't travel.”¹

When, in the month of January 1881, Major Wauchope made known his intention of retiring at the end of the season,² it seemed possible that Lord Hopetoun might accept the mastership, but on the matter coming to be formally considered his lordship stated that he was unwilling to take the hounds at that time, although he would do so rather than that they should be discontinued.³ As it turned out, it was not necessary to fall back upon this most sportsmanlike offer, for when approached on the subject Mr Russel of Dundas Castle expressed his willingness to undertake the management.⁴

Since it was understood that with this change in the mastership there would probably be a change in the Hunt staff also, Atkinson intimated his resignation. No sooner had he done so than a subscription list was opened for the purpose of making him a gift worthy of his long period of service in the Lothians, and in the following month of July (1881) he was presented with a cheque for

¹ ‘The Field,’ 20th March 1880.

² Minute-book, vol. i. p. 194.

³ Ibid., p. 194.

⁴ Ibid., p. 196 *et seq.*

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

£400, and a memento for his wife in respect of her kindness to the members of the Hunt on many occasions. Colonel Gillon, who had the pleasure of making the presentation, remarked in the course of a most happy speech, that with Atkinson as his huntsman he would not be afraid to take his hounds into any country in Great Britain. In replying, Atkinson, with some feeling, expressed his sense of gratitude at the kindness shown to him and indicated the regret which he experienced in parting with his many hunting friends. But it would almost seem that without the help of "Auld Hunt," as Atkinson was termed by many of the country folk, the establishment could not be carried on, and, after a season had passed, he was again settled in his old quarters at Golfhall.

It will be remembered that at the end of Mr James Hope's first season the hounds had become the private property of a few members of the Hunt.¹ Now, however, they were purchased by Mr Russel, who came under obligation to keep them up and, if required, to hand them over to the country at the end of his mastership on terms to be then arranged.² Mr Russel undertook to hunt the country not less than five days a-fortnight,³ and through the large number of hounds he had in kennel usually brought the dog-hounds and the bitches into the field separately, instead of hunting a mixed pack, as has since almost invariably been

¹ *Vide* p. 230.

² Minute-book, vol. i. p. 197.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 196.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

the custom. Render and Rapid,¹ Ferryman and Fairy,² were all good workers, and so was the Milton Sepoy,³ who single-handed killed a fox after a run from Wallhouse to Williamsraig in the spring of 1884; while the Marquis of Waterford's Rutland,⁴ purchased in 1882 along with his brother Regent and an unentered dog-hound named Forrester at the price of a hundred and fifty guineas, gained honourable mention for his performance in the field and was used as a stud-hound.

Charles Atkinson, who came from the Kildare country, at that time hunted by Mr Forbes of Callendar, succeeded his uncle in the huntsman's place, and although he seems to have shown fair sport, his sojourn with the pack was but a short one. In the middle of the season Mr Russel came to the committee with the proposal that in the succeeding one (1882) he should be permitted to hunt the hounds himself, and offered, if this were agreed to, to waive his right to the subscription, provided that were kept up and expended for the good of the Hunt.⁵ At the present day the hounds belong to the country, and it is mainly due to this generous offer on Mr Russel's part and to the acceptance of it by the committee that such is the

¹ Render } (1879) by Rasselas—Sprightly.
Rapid }

² Ferryman } (1879) by Lord Coventry's Galloper—Furbelow.
Fairy }

³ Sepoy (1879) by Milton Sultan—their Torment.

⁴ Rutland } (1880) by Milton Rifleman—Lord Waterford's Redwing.
Regent }

⁵ Minute-book, vol. i. p. 206.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

case. For in the years which followed, the subscription considerably exceeded in amount the sums annually expended in making and fencing coverts, paying surface and poultry damages, &c., with the result that a reserve fund was formed which, when the proper time arrived, was devoted *pro tanto* to the purchase of the pack.¹

The first good day which fell to Charles Atkinson's lot after the end of the cub-hunting season was the 31st of December,² and it must have been a matter of satisfaction to him that he was able to show sport on that date, since it chanced that his former master, Mr Forbes, was present. Three days later a large field, including the master and Miss Russel, Lady Estella and Lady Dorothea Hope, Miss Mackenzie, Sir Arthur Halkett, Mr Blackwood, Mr Drybrough, Colonel M'Barnet, Mr Usher, and Captain Wilkie, met hounds at Clermiston, and had the good fortune to take part in a fast run from Dalmeny to Hopetoun, over a line now nearly impossible. Finding in the laurels close to Dalmeny House, hounds soon reached the west lodge-gates, but, turning right-handed, ran down to and along the sea-shore almost to the quay at Queensferry. From that they swung south, and crossing the Edinburgh road close to the Halls or Hawes inn, went on over the farm of Wester Dalmeny to Craigbrae, and thence, at a great pace, by Dundas and Swine-

¹ Minute-book, vol. ii. p. 61.

² 'Edinburgh Courant,' 2nd January 1882.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

burn to Woodend at Hopetoun, where the fox made good his escape.¹ In the following week, on the 10th of January, after meeting at Bradshaw in very windy weather, there was a good run with only one short check, from Bellsquarry by Bankton, Calder glen, Midcalder, Calderhall, Ormiston, Boll o' Bear, and Dalmahoy hill, and across the railway below Ravelrig to Dalmahoy wood, where scent failed. The point is stated as being about nine miles—seven would seem to be more accurate—and the time about an hour and a quarter.² Hopetoun House was the fixture on the 11th of February, and after a good gallop of an hour over the grass between it and the Binns with blood at the finish, hounds ran fast for fifty minutes from Longmuir by Broomieknowes, B'ormie and the Witch craig back to Longmuir. Amongst those who were there to see were Lady Estella Hope and Miss Russel, both of whom, it is stated, "went remarkably well," Colonel Anstruther Thomson, at that time master of the Fife Hounds, and Mr Randolph Wemyss, then master of the Burton.³

In his second season, that of 1882, Mr Russel frequently visited the East Lothian country, which had become vacant in the previous year, and when he did so, the hounds were generally trained from Edinburgh, the journey between the kennels and

¹ 'The Scotsman,' 5th January 1882.

² 'Edinburgh Courant,' 13th January 1882.

³ Ibid., 14th February 1882.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

the Waverley station being made by road. Thus in the morning and again in the evening of the days on which the east country was hunted, the pack passed along Princes street, an incident sufficiently remarkable, although of course the traffic was not then nearly so great as it is now. Owing to an attack of typhoid fever, followed by blood poisoning, Mr Russel was not able to hunt the hounds himself so regularly as he had intended, and John Atkinson, who had been engaged as kennel-huntsman on the departure of his nephew, frequently carried the horn. Notwithstanding the fact that the hounds were in the field sometimes four days a-week, the sport shown was inferior to that of the following season, when the hunting days were reduced to two, with a third at the master's discretion.¹ The first day of regular hunting was the 23rd of October (1882) at Dundas Castle, "where the master had a breakfast ready and all other usual 'incentives.' It was a brilliant morning and a large meet—three drags and four (92nd, 3rd D. G., and Mr Brown's), also a dozen of carriages, and 70 to 80 horsemen. . . . The master and his hounds acquitted themselves admirably, and every one was pleased."² But Major Wauchope's death on the 25th of November caused a short break in the season,³ and when hunting was resumed there was no sport worthy of mention until the 18th of January, on which

¹ Minute-book, vol. i. p. 224.

² *Ibid.*, p. 220.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 221

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

date a good hill run resulted from a fixture at Garvald in East Lothian—hounds pulling down their fox in the open near Crichness at the end of a fast fifty-five minutes without a check.¹ It was on a Saturday about this time that the pack, carrying a fair head, brought a fox from the Three-mile-town coverts by Humbie to Dundas, where they threw up on the gravel in front of the castle, and although Mr Russel held them all round, they were unable to hit off the line. On the following Monday morning, however, the housemaid who went to open the windows of a bedroom on the ground floor, not only discovered the fox, but found everything in a terrible state of disorder. Curtains had been torn down, furniture overturned, and ornaments broken; and it appeared that the fox, after failing in an attempt to escape by the chimney, had made use of the bed and all the most comfortable chairs. On being liberated he crossed the lawn, apparently none the worse of his Saturday to Monday visit in the bedroom at Dundas, which ever afterwards went by the name of “the fox room.”

But although Mr Russel was able to hunt hounds himself occasionally, he was far from well, and so unfit for his duties did he feel in the end of the year (1882) that he considered it best to send in his resignation.² Sir Arthur Halkett and Captain “Jack” Middleton were in turn asked to fill the

¹ ‘Edinburgh Courant,’ 23rd January 1883.

² Minute-book, vol. i. p. 221.



MR RUSSEL AND THE HOUNDS AT DUNDAS CASTLE, 1882.

J. DAVIS,
(and Whipper in.)

M. PRINGLE,
(and Horseman.)

MR RUSSEL,
(M. R. H., on Kingfisher.)

J. ATKINSON,
(K. H. and at Whipper-in.)

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

vacancy,¹ but the negotiations fell through and the situation was relieved by Mr Russel who, in a very sportsmanlike way, volunteered to continue as master for another season,² hoping that his health might soon be restored. When cub-hunting began, however, he was still indisposed, and Lord Hopetoun kindly undertook the charge for him, and continued to act as master until about the middle of November. By that time Mr Russel, if not quite in his usual vigour, was at least sufficiently recovered to be in the field in some of the worst of weather, and even to carry the horn every now and again. Probably the two best runs of the many which occurred this season—during which hounds were out sixty-two days and killed thirty-seven brace of foxes³—were those which took place on the 22nd of January and the 19th of February (1884) from fixtures at Hillwood, Ratho, and Riccarton House respectively. It was a wet and stormy morning when hounds met at Hillwood, and several coverts were drawn blank before they found in the Barracks covert at Livingstone. From that they ran at first in a westerly direction over Caputhall, but turning to the right, crossed the Edinburgh and Bathgate road and went on by Drumcross, the Byres, Bangour-strips, Cairnpapple, the Witch craig, B'ormie, and Lochcote to Bowdenhill. There they changed from the line of the hunted fox to that of a fresh one, but went away

¹ Minute-book, vol. i. p. 222.

² Ibid., p. 224.

³ 'Edinburgh Courant,' 2nd April 1884.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

at once and running by B'ormie, Cairnpapple, and Tartraven, eventually marked to ground at Baldie-tap. The run lasted an hour and forty-five minutes, with only one short check near Tartraven—there was none at Bowden—and although the country rode deep and hounds had therefore an advantage over their followers, the master (Mr Russel), Miss Mackenzie, Major Crofton, A.D.C., Mr Hugh Martin, Hillwood, Mr Macknight, Mr, now Colonel, C. T. Menzies, Mr J. C. Munro,—subsequently master of various packs, including the Atherstone,—and Mr Usher were with them at the finish.¹ But the fixture at Riccarton was productive of a better run with a longer point. It was the bitches' turn, and the covert at Buteland, then celebrated for its strong foxes, rang with their music before they broke from it to the west. Turning right-handed they crossed the water of Leith below Leithhead mill and ran on by Belstane covert and Leyden, with Selm's moor on their right, up Corston hill, down the Rhiins, across the Linhouse water at the viaduct, and by Wellhead, Muirieston House, and Wester Muirieston, to Hermand, where they were brought to their noses. But they were soon busy on the line again, and touching West Calder—they all but entered the church at the east end of the village—continued by Slateheugh and Birniehill over a country intersected by some difficult fences, to the coverts at Hartwood. There a short check occurred, but with Atkinson's help

¹ 'Edinburgh Courant,' 24th January 1884

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

they recovered the line, and after running on by West Mains towards Baads mill turned right-handed and pulled their fox down at Addiewell, after having covered a distance of fully sixteen miles with a point of eight. At the finish there were present, besides Atkinson, only four of the field—Mr William Allan, who still has both the brush and mask of this game fox, Mr Hugh Martin, Mr C. T. Menzies, and Mr Hugh Mosman, now of Auchtyfardle.¹

On Mr Russel's resignation at the end of this season, Mr J. Graham Menzies, third son of Mr Graham Menzies of Hallyburton, accepted the management, purchased the pack, and with Atkinson in charge at Golfhall, hunted the country two and frequently three days a-week, receiving the subscription collected. During the years in which he was in office matters ran smoothly, although at the outset the Hunt sustained a serious loss through the death, on the 26th of June 1884, of Mr T. E. O. Horne, who had acted as honorary secretary and treasurer for the space of fifteen years. During that period, as the Minute-book shows, his duty to the Hunt had been discharged with an unusual care and thoroughness, and although other sports were dear to him, he gave freely of his time towards the furtherance of that which he loved the best. Before another season came round, however, his

¹ 'The County Gentleman,' 23rd February 1884; and 'The Field,' 1st March 1884.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

place was filled, Mr Falconar-Stewart of Binny agreeing to undertake the secretarial work, and the late Mr W. Horn Henderson, Linlithgow, the collection of the subscription.¹

The spell of good sport which characterised the last year of Mr Russel's mastership remained unbroken, and if less remarkable in Mr Menzies' first season, it was far from being so during his second and third. The scribes who now occupied the places of Mr Barstow, Mr Blackwood, and Mr Horne,—among whom were Mr Hugh Martin and Mr Brandford ("Horningtoft"),—had therefore ample opportunities; and that they made good use of them is evident from the number of articles descriptive of the doings of the pack which appeared in the columns of 'The Edinburgh Courant,' 'The Scotsman,' and other newspapers during the seasons of 1884, 1885, and 1886. A long draw without satisfactory result followed the meet at Dreghorn on the 3rd of March 1885, but the coverts at Bavelaw maintained their reputation in holding a fox which led hounds over a wide area by Buteland, Belstane, Ormiston, East Calder, and Calderhall, and across the Almond to Drumshoreland—rather more than six miles straight—before he was put to ground near Amondell.² On the 24th of the same month there was another hunt from Bavelaw, this time by Listonshiels to Curriehill, while a good run from Kinneil, another

¹ Minute-book, vol. i. p. 239a.

² 'The Scotsman,' 5th March 1885.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

from Bellsquarry, and several from Bangour, helped to make the season a satisfactory one.¹ In the following winter, after meeting at the Star and Garter, Linlithgow, on the 14th of November (1885), hounds went away on the line of a fox which they did not find, but which Mr Hugh Mosman, who was on foot, had winded over the road a little to the south of B'ormie covert, after that had been drawn. Picking up the scent they ran down by Williamsraig and Belsyde and across the Union canal towards Avontoun. There they turned back, and skirting Belsyde, Cockleroi, and the Witch craig, reached Cairnpapple from which, after a short check, they ran on by the Silvermines, the Knock, Craigs, and the Byres, across the Edinburgh and Bathgate road, and by the Barracks and Livingstone wood to ground at Howden,—seven or eight miles as the crow flies, over a nice line of country.² On the last day of this season, the 24th of April, when Marchbank was the fixture, the field had their work cut out for them, for the burst over Kaimes hill to Meadowbank after the stout fox which jumped up in front of the pack on Dalmahoy hill was but a preliminary canter. Leaving Meadowbank behind them and turning from Greenburn by Whitemoss hounds settled to the line and carried it through Newlands

¹ 'Edinburgh Courant,' 27th March 1885, and Hunting Diary of Mr J. S. Pitman, Edinburgh.

² Ibid., 18th November 1885, and Hunting Diary of Mr J. S. Pitman, Edinburgh.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

to Belstane gorse, from which they ran at a great pace by Aimville and across the Lanark road to Little Vantage. Then they swept over Auchinoon hill to Harper-rig and, crossing the Dean burn, continued over Mid-hill and by Listonshiels and West Bavelaw to Bavelaw Castle where, in consequence of the fox having doubled, a breathing space was given to horses and riders. But it was a short one, and away went the pack over the shoulder of the Black hill as if for Logan House, wheeling from that in a big half circle and again pointing for Bavelaw. Ewes and lambs, however, intervened, and although hounds were now running for blood they were whipped off the line after having travelled fast for two hours over a great tract of rough country.¹ But perhaps the best run during Mr Menzies' mastership was that which took place on the 25th of January 1887, when the meet was at Ormiston hill. After a turn round the covert on Selm's moor, hounds broke towards Meadowbank, turned right-handed, and, crossing the Lanark road and the water of Leith near Haugh-head, went on over Buteland hill to Listonshiels. Leaving the farmhouse on their right, they rattled their fox through the West Bavelaw coverts and continued along the ridge of the Black hill,—Loganlee reservoir lying below them,—past Logan cottage, through the covert on Bell's hill, over Capelaw hill, down the glen at Allermuir and by Bonally to Swanston, where they

¹ 'The Scotsman,' 26th April 1886.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

caught him in the open. It is nine miles as the crow flies from Selms to Swanston; as hounds ran it was fifteen, and they performed the journey in two hours although the line lay for the most part down wind and in a gale.¹

To touch upon any other runs in Mr Menzies' mastership, after having described what seems to have been the best, is perhaps injudicious. Still, that which took place on the 5th of March 1887 is worthy of mention. When the hearty welcome for which Polkemmet was famous had been extended to all who met there that day by Sir William Baillie, hounds were put into the Hare moss, where, although a brace of foxes were on foot, they quickly settled to one, and pressing him across the moss and through the policies to the young wood west of the house, went on as if for Polkemmet moor. Near the Whitburn road, however, the fox was headed, and hounds, swinging right-handed, skirted Couch farmhouse and raced over the grass parks through which the How burn flows, as far as the Harthill and Westcraigs road. The manner in which they were running, coupled with the fact that a grass country with very few coverts in it lay before them, gave promise of a fine run, and when the road and the Shotts railway had been crossed, the pack went on as before, up the rising ground to Forrestburn mill, and from that, after a short check, over Bridge hill and past Bentfoot farm to the

¹ 'The Scotsman,' 28th January 1887.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

plantation beyond. But the best was still to come, and when the fox was viewed away from this covert, hounds were close to him, and now pursued him into a country consisting entirely of grass intersected by stone walls, and quite unknown to those who rode over it, until at the end of an hour and ten minutes from the find, they ran into him in the open at the foot of Pappert hill in Lanarkshire. Unfortunately many of the field, including Colonel Hare, were thrown out by the Shotts railway, and only five horsemen besides Atkinson, and one lady, Miss Alice Hare,—upon whom both brush and mask were bestowed,—were present at the finish.¹

Atkinson's favourite horse at this time—probably he never rode a better—was old Kingfisher, who, had he been able to speak, could no doubt have told that there were many long days as well as long runs. It was a quarter to four when hounds found their second fox at the Witch craig on the 3rd of April 1886, and an hour and a quarter later when they ran into him near Callendar House, some twenty-five miles from home. After crossing the Avon to the west of Wallhouse only four riders, including Atkinson, were left, the pack running well together, and in full cry. Soon two of the four, the master (Mr Menzies) and Mr Falconar-Stewart, dropped off, then old Kingfisher gave in, and only one, Mr Usher, was able to last to the finish. With some difficulty hounds

¹ 'The Scotsman,' 7th March 1887.



MR MENZIES AND THE HOUNDS AT BINNY.

3RD APRIL 1886.

I. WINTER,
(*ex Whippoorin*.)

J. ATKINSON,
(*huntsman, ex Kingfisher*.)

MR MENZIES,
(*Ch. F. II*.)

W. BLIFFE,
(*and Whippoorin*.)

MR G. FALCONER-STEWART
of BINNY (*Hon. Secy.*)

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

and horses were got back to Wallhouse, where, through the kindness of Colonel Gillon's coachman, his master being from home, fresh mounts were obtained and the kennels reached about twelve P.M.¹

Atkinson, who in stature was broad rather than tall, had a kindly face, a merry twinkle in his eye, and a fine rich voice full of timbre. When an official from the Inland Revenue office, doubting the accuracy of the number of hounds returned for licence, called at Golfhall and asked him how many there were in kennel, the twinkle in his eye was probably brighter than usual as he replied, "Ye can come in and count them for yourself, but mind ye there be some savage beggars among 'em, and they might take a piece out of your breeches." The official departed, wishing him good-day and saying he would take his word for it that the return was correct. The old man had a curious way of talking to himself in the field, and, if excited, of repeating his words a little. On one occasion when he had a twisty fox to hunt, Mr Hugh Mosman well remembers overhearing him mutter, "Dirty brute, dirty brute, won't let hounds eat ye if they kill ye."

Towards the end of the year 1886, Mr Menzies' engagement to Miss S. W. Wilson, the eldest daughter of Mr Arthur Wilson of Tranby Croft,

¹ 'The Scotsman,' 7th April 1886, and Hunting Diary of Mr J. S. Pitman, Edinburgh.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

Yorkshire, was announced, and his wedding took place at St Peter's Church, Anlaby, on the 8th of February 1887. Presents suitable to the occasion were sent by the members of the Hunt and by the Hunt servants, and on the wedding-day when, by invitation, the West of Fife Hounds met at Hopetoun House, a congratulatory telegram was dispatched to the bridegroom.

Mr Menzies' resignation at the close of the season was followed by the retirement of Atkinson, who had then completed his twenty-sixth season as huntsman or kennel-huntsman in the Lothians.¹ The information concerning his career prior to his becoming huntsman to Sir David Baird and Sir Alexander Kinloch in 1860 is a little contradictory, but the following particulars may be accepted as being nearly, if not quite, correct. A son of Lord Portman's huntsman, his first place in hunt service was with the Berkeley, which pack he left in or about the year 1853 in order to become whipper-in to Lord Suffield. After turning hounds to his lordship for a season he got the horn and carried it until 1859, when he became huntsman to the Vale of White Horse. Coming to Scotland in 1860, he hunted hounds for Sir David Baird and Sir Alexander Kinloch for nine seasons ;

¹ Atkinson occupied the position of huntsman in the Lothians from 1860 to 1881 (twenty-one seasons), of kennel-huntsman from 1882 to 1884 (two seasons), and of huntsman from 1884 to 1887 (three seasons). In 1869 he was presented with a cheque for £150, and in 1881 with one for £400, while on his final retirement in 1887 he received one for £200.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

was huntsman to the Lothians pack for eight; and subsequently huntsman or kennel-huntsman to the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire for nine. On leaving the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire as he did now (1887), he took a small house at Corstorphine not far from Golfhall, but later went to live at Portobello, where he died on the 5th of February 1898, aged sixty-eight.

“The grave has this week closed over one of the keenest sportsmen, one of the cleverest huntsmen, one of the best and most reliable of servants who ever blew a horn or holloed his hounds on to a line. A worthy successor of Will Williamson, Tom Rintoul, and Joe Hogg,¹ John Atkinson showed sport equal to anything recorded of their palmiest days. Always cheery, except at the close of a blank day, it gave an additional zest to the pleasures of the chase to find him in the field. There was a vein of humour in his temperament which enabled him to face such difficulties as he encountered in the happiest spirit, and always with that twinkle in his eye so familiar to his friends. . . . Atkinson leaves behind him his devoted wife, whose pleasant greeting on return from hunting will ever be remembered by the members of the Lothian Hunt, who, in those good old days, experienced her hospitality. It may be but poor consolation to her in her widowhood, but all of us who knew John so well, admired him so much, respected him so thoroughly,

¹ Lord Wemyss' huntsman in East Lothian.

HISTORY OF THE L. & S. HUNT

offer her our heartfelt sympathy in her bereavement.”¹

Atkinson's remains lie by the side of those of his friend and brother huntsman, Stracey, in the Grange cemetery, Edinburgh, and it is pleasing to note that the stone which stands to their memory bears a reference to their calling. The inscriptions on the gravestones of Williamson, Knight, and Rintoul make no allusion to their vocation in life, the masters they served or the hounds they hunted, and it is a matter for regret that such is the case. The bare facts, at least, might have been recorded, while the addition of a fitting quotation or verse would not have come amiss, even if less deserving than the lines which graced the tomb at Wooten Wawen of Somerville's huntsman, Hoitt.

“ Here Hoitt, all his sport and labour past,
Joins his loved master Somerville at last !
Together wont the echoing fields to try,
Together now in silent dust they lie :
Tenant and Lord, when once we yield our breath,
Huntsman and Poet, are alike in death.
Life's motley drama calls for powers and men
Of different casts to fill her changeful scene.
But all the merit that we justly prize,
Not in the *part* but in the *acting* lies.
And as the lyre, so may the huntsman's horn,
Fame's trumpet rival, and his name adorn.”²

¹ ‘The Haddingtonshire Courier,’ 12th February 1898.

² ‘Sporting Magazine,’ April 1832.

CHAPTER X.

CAPTAIN GEORGE CLERK CHEAPE OF WELLFIELD.

MR ADAM PATERSON CROSS.

1887-1895.

To hunt the country two days a-week, to become resident in the district and take an active interest in the well-being of the Hunt, to purchase the pack, keep it up to a proper standard and, finally, give the refusal of it to the Hunt committee, were the principal conditions on which the management was entrusted to Captain Cheape upon the retirement of Mr Menzies in 1887.¹

Captain Cheape, who had served with the 11th Hussars, was master of the West of Fife Hounds from 1878, when Sir Arthur Halkett retired, to 1882, and again from 1885, when Mr R. E. Wemyss' management expired, to 1887. Throughout these seasons he had hunted hounds himself, —Jack Shepherd being his kennel-huntsman and first whipper-in during the earlier period, and James Beavan during the later. Beavan, who had

¹ Minute-book, vol. ii. pp. 1 and 2.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

formerly been with the East Kent, Lord Fitzwilliam's, the Morpeth and the Cattistock, now accompanied his master to West Lothian, as huntsman, while Edward Cotesworth, who had gained six years' experience with the Old Berkeley (West), the Albrighton and the Goodwood packs, was engaged as first whipper-in.

When arrangements with the Hunt committee had been concluded, Captain Cheape leased Gogar House near the kennels, and made that his home for a time. During the three years in which he was in office, the strength of the pack was largely maintained by drafts, the most important of which, in point of numbers, were got from Sir Bache Cunard and the Fitzwilliam, and the most useful from the Blankney, the Atherstone, and Captain Johnstone. In the summer of 1887 the kennels at Golfhall held over eighty couples of hounds, including the drafts then purchased, and from these Captain Cheape and Beavan formed the pack for the following season. Among the draft hounds got from Sir Bache Cunard were Dislocate (1887) by the Oakley Rhymer (1882)—his Dimple (1883); his Beauty (1888) by Belvoir Forecast—his Bertha (1882); and Rompish (1888) by his Racer (1883)—his Rosslyn (1885), all of which were afterwards bred from. The Blankney bitches, although few in number, were noted for their work, and their Fairy (1883) by Belvoir Fencer (1880)—Blankney Beauty (1877), became the dam of Grateful (1891), and thus a forebear

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

of the Genitor (1896) family, so much valued by Cotesworth at a later period. The Atherstone draft included their Trusty (1881), by their Traitor (1876)—their Ladybird (1878), an old but reliable hound and the sire of the four sisters Fallacy, Fanciful, Forcible, and Frantic (1888), two of which distinguished themselves in the field in their first season. But no greater good was accomplished than through using the dog-hounds got from Captain Johnstone,—Trueman (1884), and Templar (1888) in particular,—whose blood ran strong in the pack between the years 1890 and 1900, and is still to be found in nearly all the home-bred hounds at the present day.

The harvest of 1887 having been comparatively an early one, cub-hunting was begun on the 1st of September, and by the end of the following month the pack had been well blooded and the country fairly overtaken. During that time Captain Cheape had given satisfaction to landlord and tenant alike, and when regular hunting commenced he was in the proud position of being able to say that there was not a farmer in the district who was not well disposed towards the Hunt.¹ Having gained the good opinion of the agriculturist, he was at some pains to retain it, and with the view of preventing all avoidable damage in the field, he addressed those who met him at Riccarton House on the 12th of November. Speaking in the interest of the

¹ 'The Scotsman,' 5th and 26th November 1887.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

farmer, he desired them to remember that in following his hounds they were riding over land which was valuable—land to which damage was more easily done and perhaps less easily repaired than in other districts—and asked them to help him by doing as little injury as possible to crops and fences. He also stated that if injury were done to these, he would repair it, and would send in the bills to those who caused it.¹ Then, wishing every one good sport, he gave Beavan the order to put hounds into covert. An hour or two later one of the field, Mr F. C. Grey, riding an indifferent timber-jumper, was caught in the act of breaking a gate, and was there and then fined half-a-sovereign. But in exacting this penalty Captain Cheape had no motive beyond the prevention of damage, and when Christmas came round the offender received from the master the present of a pair of spurs, accompanied by the kindly wish that with their help he would be able to jump over gates and not through them.

From now until the time when he was promoted to the huntsman's place two years later, Cotesworth, who wrote, as indeed he also spoke, extremely well and fluently, was the most regular chronicler of the work of the pack. The articles which he as "Croppie Boy" contributed to the columns of 'Horse and Hound' are bright and pleasant to read, and from them and other sources of information a few instances of the sport shown

¹ 'The Scotman,' 26th November 1887.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

may be given. On the 22nd of November, hounds ran nicely from the coverts on the Braes o' Mar by Longmuir and B'ormie to Lochcote,—a point of some five miles,—Beavan and the first whipper-in lying well with them, Miss Mackenzie, the late Mr W. J. Drybrough, and Mr C. T. Menzies a field or so behind, and the rest “nowhere”; while, on the 6th of the following month, much patient work on the part of hounds and huntsman was displayed in a slow hunt from the same coverts, the line taken lying by Little Ochiltree, Longmuir, and Wairdlaw to the Witch craig, and thence to Bangour. After the coming of the new year, on the 10th of January, there was “a bright thirty minutes from Ormiston gorse”; on the 10th of March, sixty minutes of the best, from Cairnpapple to Longmuir and from that nearly straight to Wallhouse craigs, with as good a cry as there had been all season; and on the 21st of January and the 24th of March, two hard days from fixtures at Uphall inn.¹ Thus the season of 1887 passed as many others have, without any real “red-letter” days, but nevertheless with much genuine sport, sometimes in a good country, sometimes in a bad, and often in a rough one.

On the 17th of June 1888, just four years from the time when the Hunt had been deprived of the services of Mr Horne, it received another serious

¹ ‘Horse and Hound,’ 26th November and 10th December 1887; 28th January, 17th March, and 31st March 1888; and *Hunting Diaries* of Mr J. S. Pitman, Edinburgh, and the author.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

blow through the death of Colonel Gillon, whose zeal in every matter which pertained to the hunting of the country has to some extent been described in these pages. When next the committee met they took the opportunity of recording "their deep sense of the very great loss which they as well as all those interested in the Hunt have sustained owing to the death of Colonel Gillon of Wallhouse, who, since the year 1844, has been, from his genial manner and sound judgment, one of the most popular and prominent supporters of the Hunt." ¹

During the period in which Colonel Gillon and afterwards his son Captain Gillon were in possession of the estate, the coverts at Wallhouse seldom failed to hold, and were generally full of, foxes; nor were they drawn in vain when hounds met there on the 8th of December 1888. Still it was not until B'ormie was reached that the sport of the day really began, and that the old fox which provided it, and which it is said had outwitted Atkinson as well as Beavan on several occasions, was put on his legs. Breaking covert to the east, hounds picked out the line, with a somewhat too eager field behind them, and with anything but a good scent, as far as Broomieknowes. There they were at fault, but Beavan put them right and they hunted up to Longmuir, and thence back to B'ormie. Leaving this a second time they went on under Cockleroi with Belsyde on their left and by Williamsraig to

¹ Minute-book, vol. ii. p. 31.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

Preston, where, getting on better terms with their fox, they began to run as if they meant it, and continued to do so by Nether Parkley and Parkley craigs to Nancy's hill. From that point to the finish it was best pace all the way and hard work to live with them as they raced by Ochiltree Castle, Riccarton, and Broomieknowes back once more to B'ormie, close to which, at the end of a good hunt of two hours and a half, they marked their fox to ground. By candle-light he was dug down to, bolted and killed, his brush being bestowed on Mrs Shanks, the farmer's wife who had holloaed him away in the morning, and who stayed to see the finish.¹ It was in this run that Mr W. J. Drybrough, riding his horse The Dream, leaped the Preston march-wall, a performance so remarkable that it deserves description, and "Croppie Boy" shall tell the tale as he told it at the time. "But what is this in front? The Preston march-dyke, a wall like the side of a house, built with mortar and with square, uncompromising coping stones on top. There is no disgrace in turning from this obstacle, for it is all but utterly unjumpable, so we go round. But the well-known rider of the grey means to have a whet at it, and with three mighty bounds the horse, with 16 st. on top of him, launched clear over nearly six feet of solid masonry. On the other side is a drop, measured next day, of fourteen feet some odd inches, so of course they fall—in fact, the horse's hind legs never touched

¹ 'Horse and Hound,' 15th December 1888.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

the ground, but he landed on his fore legs and head and rolled over, sending his rider prospecting, but on the right side of the fence—no mean feat early in the day before the first gloss is off horse and man, and when the performance is towards the close of a hard day [as this was], the merit is enhanced, and is, any way, early or late, on a par with the celebrated jump of Squire Tom Smith of Hambledon fame, who, when master of the Craven, rode his horse General over a park wall six feet two inches in height, the rest of the field riding *under* when they got the postern gate open.¹ In both cases the horse fell on landing, but the squire was hurt and our man was not, beyond a shaking, and in both cases the performer was chary of speaking of his deed; but this will be spoken of and received with incredulity, long after we have been ferried over the unjumpable Styx to hunt in pastures Elysian.”²

It should be added perhaps, that when coming down to the wall, Mr Drybrough called out to a

¹ *Vide* ‘Sporting Incidents in the Life of another Tom Smith,’ 1867, p. 89.

² ‘Horse and Hound,’ 15th December 1888. A stone in the Preston wall bears this inscription: “W. J. D. The Dream. 8 Dec. 1888.” The measurements of the leap as these were made at the time by Mr F. C. Grey, Mr Woodcock, and the author are as follows:—

From taking off of horse's hind feet to centre of copestone	7' 11"
From centre of copestone to landing of horse's near fore-foot	17' 2"
	<hr/>
	25' 1"

the wall being 5' in height on the taking off side, 1' 9" in breadth, and 7' 7½" in height on the landing side.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

man who was sitting or standing upon it, "What's on the other side?", that The Dream, who never hesitated an instant, was in the air before his owner received the reply, "Ye canna jump here," and that after their fall horse and rider picked themselves up at once, and went on to the finish.

Before the season ended, however, there was a harder day than the one just described—perhaps the hardest in Captain Cheape's mastership up to the date on which it took place, the 9th of March (1889)—since hounds ran almost continuously, and never slowly, for the space of three hours and ten minutes, although they changed foxes more than once. Cathlaw was the fixture, and the hunt began at Longmuir, whence hounds ran by Bangour, Drumcross, Craigs and Limefield to Ballencrieff, which they reached in thirty-five minutes time. There they flashed over the line, but recovering it, carried it through Cairnpapple, and after a turn by the Bishopbrae strips, ran back to within a couple of fields of West Bangour, many of the field having ere this had to cry "Enough"! Turning back through Bangour, the fox was viewed repeatedly as he led hounds by the Silvermines, Craigmailling, and Wairdlaw to B'ormie, from which, finding no shelter, he was pursued to Longmuir, and from that again, with the pace undiminished, by the Wilderness strip and over much of the line taken in the morning to Drumcross, where hounds were stopped.¹

¹ 'Horse and Hound,' 16th March 1889.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

It was about this time that the golden or Three-mile-town fox came upon the scene in the full vigour of life, and well does he deserve particular mention, inasmuch as no other, it may safely be stated, provided such sport as he did. Born in the earths on the canal-banks near Three-mile-town in 1886, he is said to have been hunted by Atkinson, Beavan, Cotesworth, R. Cotesworth, and Mr Cross, in turn, and since, because of his colour,—always “bright as a new guinea when he first broke cover,” he could not easily be mistaken, it is probable that such was the case. When first hunted by Cotesworth, who got the horn on Beavan’s accepting service under Lord Eglinton in 1889, he had not as yet attained much notoriety, and it was, perhaps, only after the run of the 28th of January 1890, that his reputation was fully established. On that occasion, as on many others this season, R. Cotesworth, who was then living at Golfhall, hunted hounds, for Cotesworth had had the misfortune to break his collar-bone when jumping a fence near Dalmahoy some weeks before. Hopetoun House was the fixture, and it was late in the afternoon when hounds were put into the coverts at Three-mile-town. Finding at once, they broke across the Linlithgow road towards Lampinsdub, but turning left-handed, recrossed the road and went on by Auldcathie and the earths which the fox knew so well, to Fawnspark. Then they went away, crossed the Linlithgow road for the third time, and passing the farms of Waterstone and Drumforth, reached

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

the policies at Binny. To the south of the park, Cotesworth, on wheels and with his arm in a sling, viewed the fox as he crossed the road and waved the field onwards as hounds took the line over and carried it by East Broadlaw towards Forkneuk close to the village of Uphall. From that they turned right-handed and, skirting The Law, ran on by Burnbrae and through the roundels at Craigbinning pointing for the coverts at Bangour. Turning again, however, they crossed the Bathgate road, and racing over the old grass on Dechmont hill, entered the strips below the mansion-house. This was the furthest point touched, for hounds now swung back, recrossed the Bathgate road, and brushing through the Moss covert, ran up to Drumcross where, at ten minutes past five, in moonlight, they were whipped off the line.¹ The distance as the crow flies from Auldcathie to Dechmont is not much over five miles, but as hounds ran it was probably little short of twelve, while as the pace was very fast throughout, the field was considerably tailed. Mr Blackwood, who was acting as master in Captain Cheape's absence, and was riding a son of his old mare Lady Emma, previously mentioned, had a bad fall which prevented him going on. Mr C. T. Menzies, Mr Hugh Mosman and many others got no further than the Bathgate road where hounds first crossed it, and Mr Robert Usher saw no more of the hunt after

¹ 'The Scotsman,' 31st January 1890, and 'Land and Water,' 20th February 1892.

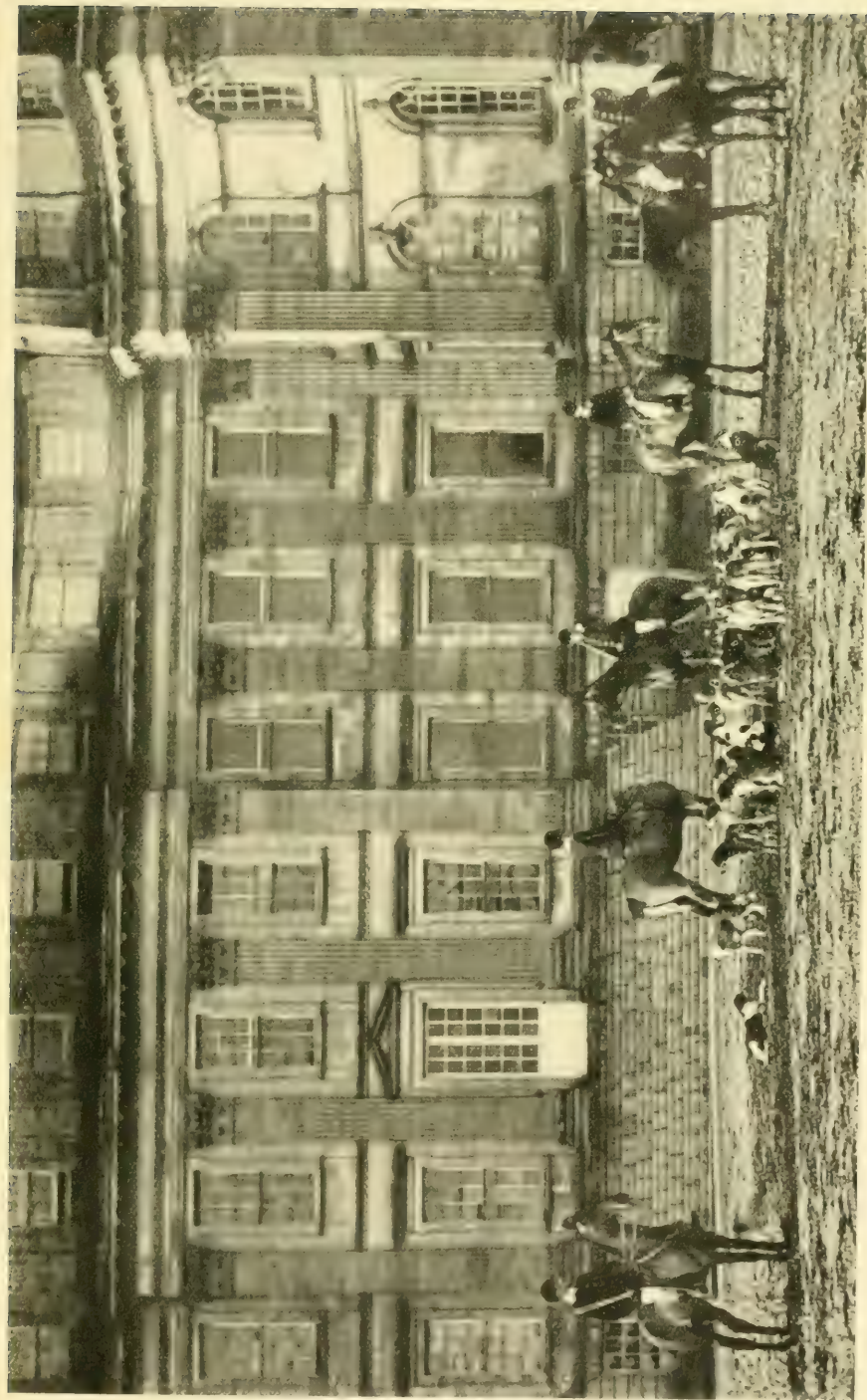
HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

his mare Constance stopped with him on Dechmont hill, where, in spite of all his efforts to save her, she died a few hours afterwards. But it was a fine hunt for all that, and although hounds and huntsman had again been defeated, there was consolation if not actual joy in the thought that the golden fox lived to run another day.

Turning from the sport to one or two other matters deserving of mention—the terms upon which Captain Cheape had continued in office this season (1889) differed somewhat from those originally arranged. Instead of receiving all subscriptions, and defraying all expenses as before, it was agreed that a sum of £1000 should be paid over to him towards meeting the cost of maintaining the establishment, and that any surplus over that sum should be handed to a special committee, to be administered in defraying the expenses connected with coverts and in settling claims for damage.¹ This committee, which was guaranteed a sum of £300 by Lord Hopetoun and several other subscribers, consisted, as originally formed, of Mr G. F. Melville, Mr Blackwood, Mr Drybrough, Mr A. Dudgeon, Easter Dalmeny; Mr G. R. Glendinning, Hatton Mains; Mr Lesslie, Boghall; Mr A. Reid, The Haining; Mr R. Stark, New Farm; Mr Usher, and Mr George Younger;² and although contributions came in readily enough, the fund was materially increased through the help of Mr C. T.

¹ Minute-book, vol. ii. p. 35.

² Ibid., p. 40.



CAPTAIN CHEAPE AND THE HOUNDS AT HOPETOUN HOUSE, 1880.

W. NICKALLS.
(*Cont. H. opposite.*)

Mrs CHEAPE.

NED COTESWORTHIL
(*Huntsman.*)

CAPTAIN CHEAPE,
(*M.F.H.*)

MR USHER.

A. SUTTON.
(*Cont. H. opposite.*)

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

Menzies and Mr Hugh Mosman, who got many a sovereign and half-sovereign as well as sums of smaller amount from their friends in the hunting field. By the autumn of 1889, Lord Hopetoun had received the appointment of Governor of Victoria. This necessitated his resignation as chairman of the Hunt committee, a position which he had held since the year 1880, and Colonel Shairp of Houstoun was unanimously chosen as his successor, while Lord Torphichen's name was added to the list of members.¹ A few months later, Captain Cheape tendered his resignation, and early in February (1890) went to America on business, leaving Mrs Cheape, with the help of Colonel Anstruther Thomson, to take charge of affairs until such time as hunting should come to an end.² Meantime the committee was occupied with the filling up of the vacancy created by his retirement, and although Mr G. F. Melville might have had the honour of being master had he so chosen, and Mr Usher and Mr George Younger had indicated their willingness to come forward jointly, the matter was set at rest by the commission of the management to Mr Cross on terms similar to those upon which it had first been entrusted to Captain Cheape.³ But whereas Captain Cheape had been owner of the pack

¹ Minute-book, vol. ii. p. 48.

² Ibid., p. 55, and 'Eighty Years' Reminiscences' by Colonel Anstruther Thomson, 1904, vol. ii. p. 255.

³ Minute-book, vol. ii. p. 61.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

in toto, Mr Cross was so only to the extent of one-third; for the committee, using the reserve fund which had accumulated in their hands since the beginning of Mr Russel's second season, now purchased the other two-thirds on behalf of the country.¹

The area overtaken at this time was very much the same as the present one, except that it extended on the east rather farther into Mid-Lothian. Thus foxes are known to have been killed in Barnton park as late as in Mr Cross's mastership; but what were coverts in 1895 are not so now, and the place is no longer hunted. In the autumn of 1907, however, Barnton received a visit from the hounds, for Morgan, the present huntsman, took them there one morning when at exercise, and after seeing the old house, kennels, and riding-school, woke the echoes with his horn. During Mr Cross's first season, Cotesworth hunted the hounds as he had in Captain Cheape's last, but sport was much interfered with by frost, and Colonel Shairp's death, on the 30th of January 1891, necessitated a short period of inactivity. From the beginning of his second season until the end of his mastership in 1895, Mr Cross carried the horn himself, and in Cotesworth he had an excellent kennel-huntsman and first whipper-in, and in Harry Maiden² an able second. It was then that home-breeding on a more extensive scale than formerly was resorted to, and al-

¹ Minute-book, vol. ii. pp. 62, 67, and 68.

² Harry Maiden, 2nd whipper-in 1891 and 1892, afterwards became huntsman to Sir H. W. W. Wynn.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

though some drafts were got, and notably one from the Grafton in 1893, these were comparatively few, and the entry each year consisted mainly of hounds bred at Golfhall. In this, Mr Cross and Cotesworth worked together, and although the former was always fond of hounds, and spent much of his spare time in the kennel, the greater part of the credit for any good which was accomplished should be given to Cotesworth. Of the matrons of the pack, those most deserving of mention were Sybil (1887), the sisters Fallacy, Fanciful, and Forcible (1888), Speedwell (1889), Relish (1890), Grateful (1891), Tranquil (1891), and Blissful (1894); while the principal sires were Captain Johnstone's Trueman (1884) and his Templar (1888) before referred to, the Lanarkshire and Renfrewshire Playmate (1884), the Duke of Buccleuch's General (1886), and last, but only so because they were used least, Belvoir Gordon (1886) and their Nominal (1888).

With the country as full of foxes as it was then, it was often impossible to prevent hounds when in chase changing from the line of one fox to that of another, and some long, although necessarily rather unsatisfactory, hunts were the result. One of these took place on the the 19th of December 1891 when, after meeting at Uphall inn, a fixture generally attended with sport, hounds ran almost without interruption for over four hours. During that time at least three foxes were hunted, and the country between West Bangour and Carribber was crossed, recrossed, and crossed again before hounds were stopped at Cairnpapple at dark, and the large field

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

which had met in the morning was reduced to two besides the master and Hunt servants.¹ If Mr Cross had not hunted the golden fox before the 13th of February 1892, he had the good fortune to do so on that date, with no indifferent scent and with an open country before him from Champ-fleurie. But it was not in "the laurels," rendered famous in consequence of the number of good runs which had taken place from them in the past, and the mention made of them by The Druid, that he was found, for he waited not for that. Hounds got his line near the shale works to the south of the Linlithgow road, and at once beginning to race, streamed away past Ochiltree, over the Oatridge country with its double fences to Binny craig and thence towards the Uphall road. Before reaching it they turned short back by Binny to Hangingside where, owing to more than one fresh fox having crossed the line, they had to be handled before they again settled down to run the one they had been hunting which, with back up and brush trailing, now led them by Waterstone and Lamp-insdub to the familiar earths on the banks of the canal at Three-mile-town. These being closed against him, he was forced on by Mounthoolie and Philpstoun moor to Whitequarries, at the west end of Hopetoun big wood, and although hounds divided at this point, they subsequently worked out the line towards Winchburgh and from that

¹ 'The Scotsman' 22nd December 1891 ; 'Land and Water,' 26th December 1891.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

back to the coverts at Three-mile-town, where further pursuit was abandoned.¹ In the following season, one of the largest fields ever seen in the country assembled at Dundas Castle on the morning of the 17th of December after the Hunt ball, and again the golden fox provided the run which, if shorter than usual, was none the less sweet while it lasted. With its valour suppressed—the result of an unsatisfactory morning's sport—the field was as full of dash and drive as the pack it followed from the coverts at Three-mile-town; and of grief there was plenty as hounds sped over the Braes o' Mar and across the Oatridge steeplechase course to Binny craig and thence, after a check, to Craigbinning, where darkness put an end to the hunt.² But the days of this good fox were numbered, and only once more did he cross the country with hounds on his line. This befell on the 28th of the following month (January 1893) when after a frost of some three weeks, Bridge Castle happened to be the fixture. About mid-day hounds were put into Longmuir, from which two foxes were holloaed away simultaneously, one to the east, and the other—the golden fox—to the south. Hounds came quickly out of covert, and there was life in the chase as, crossing the Stank, they ran up to Bankhead and from that by the Wilderness at Blackcraig towards Craigbinning. Bearing right-handed they went on by the Bangour strips, the Silvermines and

¹ 'Land and Water,' 20th February 1892.

² Ibid., 24th December 1892.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

Cairnpapple to Bishopbrae, before they were brought to a check. Recovering the line almost at once, they carried it through Cathlaw, over the Torphichen hills, past the old church—in early times the preceptory of the Knights of St John—and down to Wallhouse policies, where the fox was viewed almost dead-beat. Nevertheless, he struggled on as far as the banks of the Avon, but his strength failed him as he went, and he was pulled down in the open outside the Desert and close to the bridge across the river. Who-whoop! and all was over; although when set upon his legs by Mr Cross he seemed to laugh at hounds as they bayed around him, just as he may be supposed to have done on previous occasions, when the victory had been on his side. His brush was presented to Miss Aitken, now Mrs C. T. Menzies, who, as usual, rode well all through the run, and his mask to Mr Stark by whom he was holloaed away from Longmuir.

One other instance of the sport which took place during Mr Cross's mastership may be given. A stormy morning saw hounds at Alderstone on the 14th of March in the same year (1893), and it seemed as if a scent were impossible. But that was not wanting when, in the afternoon, Dechmont moss came to be drawn, and the Wallhouse fox which that covert held set his mask for home. When hounds went away there was no time to lose, for they were soon racing, heads up and sterns down, over "the galloping pastures of green Dechmont



Photo by Auld, Edinburgh.

HEAD OF THE GOLDEN FOX.

In the possession of the Author.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

hill," and even after the Bathgate road had been crossed and Drumcross reached, the pace was as before, and those who rode the line had to do their best to keep in touch with the pack. From Drumcross they went on to the strips at Bangour, from these in a bee-line to Cairnpapple, and so to Wallhouse craigs where an open earth saved the life of a good fox.¹ Few saw this hunt, perhaps not more than a dozen, but among the number were Mr Cross, Captain Day, and Mr William Younger, the last of whom had bidden some friends to dine with him before going to a ball that evening. Between the dinner hour appointed and the return of their host at 9.30, the waiting guests had the comforting assurance of the butler that his master must certainly have been "fatally injured," since he had never before been known to be so late in getting home from hunting. But this good run had its rough as well as its smooth side, for The Dream, the horse which had so gallantly leaped the Preston march-wall, broke down and was never really hunted again, although his owner kept him for over a year rather than destroy him. When eventually he did so, he had his hide, which was as white as snow, perserved, and although, through the lapse of time, it has since become discoloured, it is still cared for by an ardent admirer of the old horse.

Of the sport shown at this period Mr Alexander Dudgeon, Humble,² had his share, for he was a

¹ 'Land and Water,' 18th March 1893.

² Perhaps better known as of Easter Dalmeny.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

good man to hounds and hunted regularly in spite of advancing years. In Paddy, a horse which as a four-year-old had fetched 400 guineas, but which owing to a slight blemish had become his property for a comparatively small sum, he had as good a hunter as any man could wish for, and it is probable that some of the happiest hours of his life were passed on the back of this four-footed friend. But no day could ever have been more completely his than the 10th of March 1893, on which, when sixty-three years of age, he won the Hunt point-to-point race for the third time in succession, riding the same good animal in a field of twenty-one.¹ So thoroughly did his friends appreciate him as a horseman and good sportsman, and so much were they gratified by his success, that they presented him with a memento of his performance in the shape of a silver bowl which, it must have pleased him to know, had been subscribed for chiefly by those who had ridden against him.²

Through the generous conduct of two of the members of his field, Mr Cross was guaranteed a subscription of £1600 in the second last, and again in the last, season of his mastership. The matter was arranged informally, and it is therefore alluded to here only with the view of giving to the guarantors, Mr Usher and Mr William Younger, the credit they deserved; for had it

¹ Minute-book, vol. ii. pp. 99 and 100.

² Ibid., p. 103.



1894.

Photo by Elliott & Fry, London.

MR CROSS AND THE HOUNDS AT CRAIGIEHALL.

NED COTESWORTH.
(K.H. and 1st Whipper-in.)

W. JONES,
(and Horseman.)

MR CROSS,
(M.F.H.)

(and Horseman.)

FRED PAYNE,
(and Whipper-in.)

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

not been for their kindly offices in this respect there might have been some difficulty in inducing Mr Cross to remain in office.¹ The first of these seasons,² although it passed pleasantly enough, was not productive of any hunt equal to that which compassed the death of the golden fox, or the one from Dechmont to Wallhouse, but the second began brightly, and the sport which resulted from the fixture at the Binns on the 30th of October 1894 was set down as the best which any opening day had brought forth for several seasons. Other good hunts followed, including one on the 3rd of November over an unusual line—from Cairnpapple to The Haining,—but as the last days of the old year flickered out there set in a frost so keen and so enduring, that hounds were unable to take the field until the 9th of March following. Thus Mr Cross's mastership was robbed of the satisfactory finish which it deserved, for his had been a good reign, and none can gainsay the statement that he was one of the best masters which the Hunt has had in the later days of its existence. On his resignation in 1895, he was presented with a piece of silver plate by the members of his field, and was unanimously appointed a permanent member of the

¹ Minute-book, vol. ii. pp. 101, 106, and 108.

² Mr Cross states that he killed 34 brace of foxes this season (1893). -- Letter to the author dated 16th January 1910. At the end of his mastership he left the country better stocked than probably it has ever been since.

HISTORY OF THE L. & S. HUNT

Hunt committee,¹ an honour which had never before and has not since been conferred on any master who was only an *ex officio* member of that body: while the greeting which he still receives from the farmers and others in the country whose friendship or acquaintance he made in the course of his term of office, speak of a regard duly formed and not to be lost through absence or the lapse of years.

¹ Minute-book, vol. ii. p. 117.

CHAPTER XI.

MR ROBERT, MR FRED, AND MR FRANK J. USHER.

1895-1906.

THERE had been no joint-mastership for nearly half a century—not since the charge of affairs had been committed to Captain Sandilands and Captain Fleeming—when Mr Robert Usher and his brothers, Mr Fred and Mr Frank J. Usher, took the hounds on the retirement of Mr Cross, in 1895. To enter into the various schemes which were put forward for the future hunting of the country after Mr Cross's resignation had been received, and before the arrangement come to with the Messrs Usher was effected, would serve no good purpose; nor is it necessary to specify the terms of that arrangement, inasmuch as these were virtually the same as those which had been accepted by Mr Cross—although it may be stated that the one-third share in the pack which Mr Cross had held was now taken over by the new masters. Throughout the eleven seasons in which the Messrs Usher were in office everything was done on a most liberal scale, and money was not spared so long as they con-

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

sidered that the expenditure would in any way prove beneficial to the Hunt, or tend to promote sport. Thus, with a stronger pack of hounds and a larger stud of hunters than were absolutely necessary for the recognised number of hunting days a-week, it was possible, when hunting had been stopped by frost or other cause, to make up lost time by the addition of bye-days in a way which would otherwise have been impracticable. In the spring of the year 1899, after some hard weather, hounds hunted four and five days a-week for a space, and one week towards the close of the following season, they were in the field every day except Sunday. The Hunt servants, who were always well turned out, were mounted on horses of a very superior class—all pretty much of the same stamp, and nearly all possessing a happy combination of quality and substance. When the hunters were looked at, as they generally were, by those who came to the kennels, there was much to be praised or admired and little to be found fault with, and more than one huntsman of another pack, visiting Golfhall, has been known to return home not without some feelings of envy on this score. The expenditure, however, did not end with the establishment, and probably more was done during this mastership than any other in combating “the wire difficulty,” and in endeavouring to keep the country in a rideable state. If, in the course of a run, wire barred the way, as not infrequently happened, a jumping-place or a hunting gate was soon pro-



MR ROBERT, MR FRED, AND MR FRANK J. USHER.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

vided, so that when the same line came to be taken later, the huntsman was able to get to his hounds at once, and the field were not subjected to the annoyance of having to make a detour. Whether or not these efforts on the part of the masters were fully appreciated by those who followed hounds at that time is doubtful ; probably the field, like many other fields, thought little about such matters, and rested content, so long as they had their sport or were able to gallop and jump.

Mr Robert Usher and his brothers had hunted with the pack since their boyhood, and having seen much good sport in the country, entertained more than a kindly feeling for the Hunt and its welfare. But while all three brothers were able to hunt regularly at this period, matters other than the chase of the fox claimed the time and attention of Mr Robert and Mr Frank Usher, and consequently the management of the establishment and all the ordinary arrangements connected with the hunting of the country were undertaken by Mr Fred Usher, who had rather more leisure at his command. It would probably have been difficult to have found an acting-master more painstaking or more thoroughly conscientious in the discharge of his duties than he was. Ever ready to show sport, he would draw for a fox so long as any one wished him to do so, or as daylight served ; and the hunting days upon which he did not go on with his hounds in the morning and return with them in the evening were few and far between.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

As years passed he became more and more interested in the pack under his management, and, in consequence of the number of hounds which he bred, he was able to keep it up to the required strength without having resource to the purchase of a single draft hound. In breeding, he greatly relied upon, and received much help from, Cotesworth—who now again got the horn—and through the combined efforts of master and huntsman, many good working hounds and a fair number of good looking ones were put forward in most years.

Few of the hounds at this period possessed any of the blood of the pack which had been in the kennel during the union with East Lothian, but one or two couples of those in which it was still to be found were bred from, and therefore the strains were not lost; nor was the blood which Captain Cheape had introduced and Mr Cross had continued, overlooked by Mr Fred Usher and Cotesworth. Thus Sir Bache Cunard's Beauty (1888), who through her sire, Belvoir Forecast (1885), was a grand-daughter of Belvoir Weathergage, came to have many descendants on the benches at Golf-hall: and the same may be said of Rompish (1888), of the Blankney Fairy (1883), of the Atherstone Trusty (1881), and of Captain Johnstone's True-man (1884) and his Templar (1888), all previously alluded to. From Beauty sprang a line of good bitches—Blissful (1894), Bashful (1897), Bravery and Brilliant (1900), Blackcap (1902), Bangle (1903), and the sisters Blissful and Bluebell (1905): while



Photos by Elliott & Foy, London.

EDWARD COTESWORTH AND HOUNDS.

WOLDSMAN (1898).

LUTHER (1899).

GRAPPLER (1898).

GENTTOR (1899).

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

Rompish, of whose progeny the most noteworthy were dog-hounds, became the dam of Renegade (1892) and Governor (1893), the grand-dam of Genitor (1896), Woldsman (1898), and Hamlet (1899); and the great-grand-dam of Hostile (1902), all of which were used by Mr Fred Usher. But the Blankney Fairy as well as Rompish was the forbear of more than one sire which has had his influence on the pack, since from her were descended Genitor, before mentioned, Grappler (1898) and Sounder (1900); while the blood of Atherstone Trusty, which had been continued through his daughters, Fanciful, Fallacy, and Forcible (1888), was to be found in Lavish (1893), and again in her offspring Luther (1896) and Legal (1898). To Captain Johnstone's Trueman and Templar many couples could be traced, the former having got Tapster (1891), Trimbush (1891), and Renegade before mentioned; and the latter, Blissful (1894), also before mentioned, Faithful, Famous, and Favourite (1894), and Donovan (1895). Although the sires of other kennels were not much resorted to, Lord Fitzwilliam's Chanter (1891), the Duke of Buccleuch's Trident (1892), the Dumfriesshire Pilot (1894), the South Durham Streamer (1896), and the Lanarkshire and Renfrewshire Resolute (1899), and their Raeburn (1900), were all used between the years 1894 and 1904; and as their stock proved themselves workers, their lines have been perpetuated.

No doubt the good sport which took place during

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

the seasons immediately following the Messrs Ushers' acceptance of the mastership was to a considerable extent attributable to the working power of the pack. But much credit was due to Cotesworth who, being at this period in the prime of life was probably at his best—quick both in the field and in the kennel, a good and bold horseman and a clever huntsman; while a word of praise may be bestowed on Will Orvis, the first whipper-in, afterwards well known with the Atherstone and the Meynell.

By the autumn of 1895 Lord Hopetoun had returned to this country from Victoria and, on the 2nd of November, hounds met at Hopetoun House, where, it goes without saying, a cordial welcome was given to all. This, besides being the first day of regular hunting was the first of a season in which there was much sport and little frost; and although there were many hard days and many good runs both before and after the coming of the new year, it was the work resulting from a fixture at Uphall inn which this season, as in several previous ones, proved to be the highest test of condition. With the pack hard at it from half-past two to ten minutes past five o'clock on the 8th of February (1896), horses and men were kept going as long as they could last, and Cotesworth alone managed to struggle to the end. Finding at Bangour, hounds broke towards Craigbinning, but wheeling when they reached the Wilderness covert, ran by the Bangour strips to Cairnpapple and thence back to Bangour. Leaving Bangour a second time they

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

hunted nicely as far as Blackcraig and afterwards ran well until some ploughed land near Broadlaw brought them to their noses. Puzzling out the line, they went on over Binny craig to Hangingside, and from that, turning up wind, raced by Ochiltree, Riccarton, Whitebaulks, the Devil's Elbow and Preston to B'ormie. Then driving through the Witch craig and Cairnpapple they reached Cathlaw, beyond which they had a brace in front of them—a fresh fox as well as the hunted one—and when a few minutes later they went away from the strip opposite the keeper's cottage at Wallhouse craigs, it was, unfortunately, with the fresh one. The field which, owing to the pace and the extent of country traversed, had already been considerably thinned, now became further reduced in number, Mr Fred Usher being the last to give in. Cotesworth, however, who at this stage got his second horse, and Mr Ross, Hopetoun, who had come out late, followed hounds—still running with dash and vigour,—by Ballencrieff, over Johnstone's hill, through Cairnpapple and the Witch craig to the north wood at Lochcote, where an opportunity of stopping them was taken.¹ Although the furthest points touched are only some four miles apart, hounds must have covered more than twenty, and that without a check,—a circumstance which points to the hard state of condition into which they had been brought by their huntsman.

¹ 'The Scotsman,' 10th February 1896; 'Land and Water,' 15th February 1896.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

The best hunters which Cotesworth rode about this time were Mavourneen, and Carlton. The former, which had previously belonged to Mr Cross, carried him through nearly the whole of the run just described, and had she not been possessed of quality and a great heart she could hardly have done so, or gone through the many other long hunts which fell to her lot, so creditably as she did. Carlton, the horse on which he appears in the photograph taken at Craigiehall, was perhaps his favourite hunter; but, although an excellent performer over a country, he was bad-tempered, and eventually became so savage in the stable,—as Cope, the stud-groom, knew to his cost,—that he had to be destroyed.

In a previous chapter something has been said of the unwillingness, as a general rule, of the Hopetoun foxes to travel, but the fox which was found there on the 2nd of January 1897 was far from being a “ringy” one, and might fairly have been designated “straight-necked.” He was pushed up near the gardens, and hounds ran him hard up to Craigton-hill and thence back to Hopetoun big wood, round which they had a turn before they went away. Then racing by Whitequarries down to the saw-mill and through the privet covert beyond, they went on over the grass to the Binns strip, and from that by the farms of Burnshot, Cauldcoats and Walton to the Bo’ness golf-course where they checked. Cotesworth, however, put them right, and away they went again, past the monument on Bonnytoun hill

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

and across the Linlithgow and Bo'ness road, straight to Stobbieholm covert on the banks of the Avon, to ground in the main earth,—six miles from Hopetoun as the crow flies and nearly eleven in all.¹ This was the best day of the season—the second of the Messrs Ushers' mastership—for a frost of some five weeks' duration, in which all the appointments made had to be given up, followed, and the spring hunting brought forth no run equal to that from Hopetoun to Stobbieholm, although, on the 20th of February there was a good hunt from Longmuir to Clifton-hall in which hounds worked well, and Cotesworth displayed to the full his ability as a huntsman in helping them to unravel the line through a difficult country.

In April 1896, Mr W. Horn Henderson tendered his resignation as honorary treasurer and Mr J. G. B. Henderson, his eldest son, was appointed in his stead;² while a year later, Mr Falconar-Stewart, who had acted as honorary secretary for thirteen seasons, intimated his retirement,³ and was succeeded by the late Mr E. B. Meldrum, Dechmont.⁴ Mr Falconar-Stewart had first hunted with the pack in the year 1850, when only just old enough to sit on a pony; but school life, followed by a long sojourn abroad, soon took the place of these early hunting days, and for many years he saw nothing of hounds. When, however, he returned to this country in 1878, and made Binny his home, he not

¹ 'The Field' and 'Land and Water,' 9th January 1897.

² Minute-book, vol. ii. p. 153. ³ Ibid., p. 169. ⁴ Ibid., p. 171.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

only hunted regularly but did everything in his power to promote sport. During the period in which he was honorary secretary he succeeded in raising the subscription very considerably indeed, and his untiring energy and tact were then of the greatest help in carrying on the hunting of the country. But while his work was undoubtedly a labour of love, it was none-the-less worthy of recognition, and accordingly, on a bright cub-hunting morning in the September following his retirement, when hounds met at Dundas Castle, he was presented with a memento of his many services to the Hunt—the presentation being made by Mr Russel, who only a few days before had resigned the chairmanship of the Hunt committee. Since then, Mr Falconar-Stewart has hunted less regularly, and in late seasons has only had an occasional day with hounds; but when he does appear in the field his presence is hailed with pleasure by all old friends—now, alas! few in number—who still hunt with the pack.

About two years after the retirement of Mr Henderson and Mr Falconar-Stewart the Hunt sustained other losses. The sad and premature deaths of Mr W. J. Drybrough and Mr George Younger, both of whom had hunted in the country for a number of years, called forth many feelings of regret, and sincerely was each mourned by his friends: while the departure from Linlithgowshire of Mr James Lesslie, Boghall, who for thirty-nine years had farmed in the county, and for nearly

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

as many had ridden over it to hounds, was very widely deplored. Through his love of the chase, he had done much in his district to link fox-hunting with agriculture, and the number of sportsmen and farmers who met in the Star and Garter, Linlithgow, on the evening of the 10th of November 1899, to do honour to their mutual friend, indicated the good feeling subsisting between these two classes of the community, as well as the high esteem in which he himself was held by both.

During the earlier half of this mastership, the columns of 'Land and Water' contained many accounts of the sport which took place. All, or nearly all, of these were contributed by Mr Harry Armour, who under the *nom-de-plume*, "Palafox," wrote both regularly and well. Mr Andrew Gillon, when living at Cathlaw during the seasons of 1896 and 1897, also, helped to chronicle the work of the pack ; and several articles by him, entitled "Notes by Nimrod," appeared in 'The West Lothian Courier.' One of these gives a very graphic description of a sharp burst from Longmuir one evening in November 1896, after several good coverts in the Saturday country had been drawn blank. "As a last resort," so the Note runs, "Mr Usher gave the word for Longmuir. What a glorious uncertainty there is about fox-hunting ! When your spirits are at their lowest and your feet at their coldest, never give up hope. Mr Henderson¹ had a treat in store

¹ Mr W. Horn Henderson, Linlithgow, who for several seasons had the Longmuir shootings.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

for us at Longmuir. At first it seems quite hopeless,—not a sound is to be heard. Listen! what is that? For'ard away, awa-ay, awa-a-ay, awa-a-ay! Are my senses deceiving me? No, there it is again clear and distinct: there too, are those short, sharp, decisive notes on the horn we all know so well. Yes, they are away. How dark it is, and how those hounds do run! What a burning scent; what beautiful music! Past Hangingside, Binny craig and Oatridge, 'they are racing like mad, as though they were tied to his brush.' Right past the door of Binny House, and down the carriage drive they tear, with hackles up—every hound speaking. Our fox is done: at the east lodge gate he turns to his right and attempts to take refuge among the shale workings. It's no use: see yonder he goes, quite dead beat. Now huntsman holloa your hounds on. Tally-ho, tally-ho, who-hoop." Who shall say that these lines were not written by a sportsman?

As in the hunting of every country the primary object is to show sport, so in the history of every Hunt a fair share of space and attention should be devoted to the sport shown. Two only out of the many good runs which took place during the first four seasons in which the Messrs Usher were in office have been described, and there are others equally worthy of mention. In the third of these seasons—one nearly as open as the first—there were many days on which hounds ran well, and although the hunt from the Binns strip to Pepper-

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

hill near Longcroft on the 4th of December 1897 was by no means the longest, it was probably one of the best, for the point was a fair one and hounds pulled their fox down in the open after running nicely for an hour and fifteen minutes.¹ But perhaps the 3rd of December in the following season (1898) was the day which produced the best run of this mastership, and although Mr Fred Usher was unfortunate enough to have one of his legs broken through his horse slipping up with him near Lochcote, the accident did not happen until late in the afternoon when the run was over. In Wallhouse Desert hounds found their fox, and, from it, went away towards Lochcote, but, turning, carried the line back through the Desert to Crawhill on the banks of the Avon. Then they bent left-handed, threaded the Crow wood, and, crossing the low lands between that and the Couston water, reached Wallhouse craigs. There the fox found temporary refuge on a ledge of rock, but, being viewed, he was soon forced from his position, and hounds, after again pointing towards the Couston water, hunted him through the Bishopbrae strips into Cairnpapple. One turn round that large covert and they were away—Saffron² guiding them along and out of the road—by the silver-mines straight to Baldie-tap, and from that, leaving Craigbinning Wilderness on their right, to the Mains burn. Now the pace

¹ 'The West Lothian Courier,' 11th December 1897.

² Saffron (1894) by Tapster (1891)—Sybil (1887). Sybil by Milton Solomon (1881)—North Cheshire Spinster (1881).

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

mended and the field had to gallop their hardest in order to keep in touch with the pack which, skirting the east end of Longmuir covert, went on over the farm of Ochiltree mill and the fields below Hangingside and Oatridge. From the Ecclesmachan road to Lampinsdub the pace slackened only to be increased again between the latter and the Edinburgh and Linlithgow road, on the far side of which the fox was viewed not more than a couple of hundred yards ahead. Near the lodge gate east of the twelfth milestone they dwelt a little, but with Cotesworth's help, ran well through the Three-mile-town coverts, and finished by putting their fox to ground on the canal banks opposite Craigton, after having covered fifteen miles of varied country, with a point of eight, in something like an hour and three-quarters.¹

All seasons, however, do not bring good sport, and many dull and uneventful days followed the bright ones which up to this time had been the rule. Scent went from bad to worse, frost not infrequently bound the country, and in consequence of the death of Queen Victoria the work of all packs was brought to a temporary stand-still early in the year 1901. Nevertheless there were occasions, such as the 9th of December 1899, and the 24th of November 1900, when after a hunt and a kill, hounds were satisfied, the state of matters brightened, and it seemed as if the spell of ill

¹ 'The Scotsman,' 5th December 1898; 'Land and Water,' 10th December 1898.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

luck was really broken. On the first of these dates, with a touch of frost in the air, hounds ran well from Longmuir to Torphichen—Sir John Usher, who in the previous autumn had been honoured by having a baronetcy conferred upon him, distinguishing himself, notwithstanding his years, by being “first up” at the finish. On the second, with the country at its deepest, a fox found in Lampinsdub ‘was well hunted by Waterstone, the Braes o’ Mar, Little Ochiltree, Gateside, Ferniehill, Cockmuir, and Philpstoun moor to Priestinch where he was killed—Cotesworth wading into a pool of water up to his neck in order to get him, and the brush being presented to Mr Andrew Gillon, who was in the field for the first time after his return from South Africa. But the run from the Three-mile-town coverts to Bowden on the 20th of December 1902, was something more than a mere alleviating incident in a period of depression,—it was a good hunt, and is still looked back upon with pleasure. Hounds met at Hopetoun, and early in the afternoon were put into the garden at Wester Auldcaithie, in which a fox had been seen repeatedly for some time previously. Not waiting to be found he slipped away quietly, and when hounds hit his line a few minutes later, the covert rang with their music until, crossing the Edinburgh and Linlithgow road, they settled down to run. Leaving Trinlaymire behind them, they raced through the strips on the Braes o’ Mar and, although, on reaching Little Ochiltree, they flashed over the scent, they

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

recovered it without help, and carried it—Ochiltree Castle lying on their right and Ochiltree mill on their left—to Longmuir. Then they stretched away over the grass by Broomieknowes and Bee-craigs to B'ormie and from that, without dwelling, by the north wood at Lochcote to Bowdenhill, where they marked to ground among the rocks. Two accounts of this run appeared in print,¹ and they virtually agree as to the time occupied—forty-five or forty-six minutes—but both seem rather to exaggerate the distance traversed and to understate the point, which is one of all but six miles.

In the autumn of 1901 Mr Fred Usher's engagement to Miss Knox-Little was announced, and their wedding took place in Worcester Cathedral on the 26th of November in that year; while a few months later, and within a short time of his having resigned the appointment of Governor-General of the Australian commonwealth, Lord Hopetoun was created Marquis of Linlithgow. The glad feelings which these events gave rise to, however, were superseded some two years afterwards by others of an opposite nature, since through the deaths of Sir John Usher and Captain Johnston-Stewart the Hunt lost two of its best supporters,—both of them having been good sportsmen and members of the Hunt committee, as well as resident proprietors, of whom, unfortunately, there are now but too few in the country.

¹ 'The Scotsman,' 22nd December 1902; 'Land and Water,' 27th December 1902

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

When, in the spring of 1904, Cotesworth laid aside the horn, he had been seventeen seasons with the pack,—two as first whipper-in, four as first whipper-in and kennel huntsman, and eleven as huntsman. A period of service so considerable deserved acknowledgment, and the subscription which, upon the suggestion of Lord Linlithgow, was opened on his behalf, resulted in the ingathering of three hundred sovereigns, contributed for the most part by those who had hunted with him. But although this substantial token of goodwill must have been acceptable, it was probably the small keepsake in the shape of a silver hunting-horn, and the present made to his wife, which gave Cotesworth the most pleasure. After his retirement he lived at Currie for a time, but to a man of his temperament, life without work soon became unendurable, and with a craving to be with hounds again, he went out to America to join his brother, then huntsman to the Middlesex Hounds in Massachusetts. Before leaving this country he was a guest at the first puppy-show held after his resignation, and had an opportunity of saying, as he did with truth and, at the same time, with much fond pride, that he had bred every hound then in the kennel himself. Many of these were the descendants of Genitor (1896), a hound of which he had the highest opinion, and had therefore used most freely. In writing of him at a later period, Cotesworth states, “We could not have too much Genitor,

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

for he was not only a first-class hunting hound, but a good stud dog,—getting better puppies than himself, and all of them workers.¹

In 1898 Will Orvis had been succeeded as first whipper-in by Tom Hall, who it was said owed his place mainly to the promptitude and activity which he displayed in the putting away of a fox from a tree on the western shore at Hopetoun, the day he came on trial from the South Durham. However that may have been, he proved himself a capable whipper-in, and one day in January 1899, when Cotesworth was unwell and he had the good fortune to hunt hounds, acquitted himself most creditably, showing a nice hunt from the Wilderness at Craigbinning to Auldcathie, where a want of scent in covert alone prevented him from accounting for his fox. After turning hounds to Cotesworth for two seasons he became huntsman to the Flint and Denbigh, but now returned to Golfhall to fill the vacancy caused by Cotesworth's retirement. His knowledge of the country and the experience which he had gained in Wales stood him in good stead, and during the time he was huntsman he showed very fair sport. Although the country did not lend itself then in any greater degree than it does now to the straight running of its foxes, rather more than an average number of hunts with good points was effected in the season of 1904. On the 15th of November hounds ran from Westwood to Harry's muir near Pumpher-

¹ Letter from Cotesworth to the author, dated 16th December 1909.



MR FRED USHER AND THE HOUNDS AT INGLISTON GATE.

F. HOXFORD,
(*not Whippoorwill.*)

MR FRED USHER,
(*M.F.H.*)

TOM HALL,
(*Huntsman.*)

T. WALLER,
(*and Whippoorwill.*)

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

ston, and on the 22nd of December from the moss below the Inch near Bathgate to Calder wood—the distance as the crow flies, in each case, being between five and six miles; while on the sixth of the month last mentioned, when Alderstone was the fixture, they worked steadily for two hours and a half before being whipped off the line near Kiprig, on the country becoming unrideable.¹ A bye-day from Muiravonside on the 12th of January (1905) resulted in a hunt over an unusual line, with a point of seven miles, for the fox which was holloaed away from the Haining wood in Stirlingshire was pursued into Hopetoun territory. Breaking covert towards the farm of Avonbank, hounds swung right-handed by Waulkmilton and Manuel to Woodcockdale on the Linlithgowshire side of the river, and from that hunted through Belsyde, Williamsraig and Preston to the base of Cockleroi. Then they went on over the farms of Hillhouse, Cauldhame, and Riccarton, by Nancy's hill and Kingseavil, and across the Linlithgow road and the Union canal to Kingfield; but, again swinging right-handed, ran through Sunnyside, past Merrylees and over the Binns hill to the western shore in Hopetoun where, the earths being open, the fox saved his brush.² Before the end of the season, on the 14th of March, there was another hunt over an unusual line, since after running from Cousland covert, in which they found, to

¹ 'The Scotsman,' 8th December 1904.

² Ibid., 13th January 1904.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

Houstoun wood, hounds turned northwards, and crossing the Bathgate road, hunted through the policies of Binny, Ecclesmachan covert, and the Braes o' Mar to a point not far short of Gateside. There they were at fault, but, through information received and some help from Hall, they recovered the line, and caught their fox in the open, a little to the west of Waterstone.¹

Towards the close of the year 1904, Mr Fred Usher purchased, as a stud hound, the Atherstone Comrade (1900), by their Regulus (1896)—their Columbine (1897), the sire of more than one winner at Peterborough. Besides being steady in his work, he was good to look upon, having quality, great neck and shoulder, the best of legs and feet, and a sensible fox-hound head. There were six couples of young hounds by him at Golfhall in the spring of 1906, and two and a half couples in that of the following year, all of which, except one, were put forward, and several of which have since been bred from.

In the end of January 1906 the joint-masters intimated their resignation.² For some time previously there had been rumours of a change, and thus the resolution of Sir Robert Usher and his brothers, which was received with very general regret, did not come altogether unexpectedly. A little later Mr Fred Usher accepted the mastership of the Berwickshire Hounds, which had become

¹ 'The Scotsman,' 15th March 1905.

² Minute-book, vol. ii. p. 247.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

vacant through the death of Sir James Miller. At that time there were nearly sixty couples of hounds in kennel at Golfhall and, as it was contemplated that in future the country should not be hunted more than two days a-week, a draft, which consisted partly of entered and partly of unentered hounds, was presented to him.¹ This disposition on the part of the Hunt committee was followed by a gracious act on that of the joint-masters who generously waived their right to repayment of the value of their share in the pack,² in consequence of which the hounds became, and are now, the property of the country.

During the thirty years which terminated with the retirement of Mr Cross in 1895, no fewer than nine masters had come and gone, but none of these had remained in office so long as Sir Robert Usher and his brothers who, even now when their joint rule was at an end, did not sever their connection with the Hunt. After their resignation both Mr Fred and Mr Frank Usher contributed to the Hunt funds—the former up to the time of his death in 1909 and the latter up to the present time,—while Sir Robert, again putting his shoulder to the wheel, resumed the position he had relinquished, and is master still.

¹ Minute-book, vol. ii. p. 248 *et seq.* In addition to the above-mentioned draft from the pack, Mr Usher received, as a memento of his term of office, a gold cigarette box and lighter, presented to him by the whole of the hunting subscribers at the close of his eleventh season.

—Minute-book, vol. ii. p. 260.

² *Ibid.*, p. 250.

CHAPTER XII.

SIR ROBERT USHER AND MR ANDREW GILLON.

1906-1910.

IN 1906, as in years gone bye, the old wood of Drumshoreland formed a dark line in the landscape, the Cairn hills looked down sullenly on the rough grass and moorland stretching away from them on all sides, and Cockleroi and Binny craig reared their rocky heads against the sky. But while these and other landmarks were then much as they had been, the face of the country had altered generally, for the change brought about through the working of the minerals and the use of wire in fencing, had steadily asserted itself. Still, then as now, there remained a fair extent both of old grass and agricultural land over which hounds could run or hunt as scent served, and when Sir Robert Usher and his brothers retired, the sport was almost as popular as ever. Probably it was as much for the sake of his many hunting friends as from a desire to effect the continuance of an old establishment that, shortly after his resignation, Sir Robert volunteered to remain in office.

HISTORY OF THE L. & S. HUNT

In doing so he showed that public spirit which he is known to possess, and for which, in this instance, he received the thanks of his fellow-members of the Hunt committee.¹ But in agreeing to continue at the head of affairs, Sir Robert stipulated that he should be relieved of the management, and, accordingly, the duties of acting master were entrusted to Mr Andrew Gillon,² whose name has already occurred in these pages, and whose father and grandfather, it will be remembered, had previously hunted the country. Although Wallhouse had now passed into other hands,³ the name of the family in whose possession it had been for so long was still honoured and respected, and while, no doubt, this circumstance was in Mr Gillon's favour, the success of his mastership was due entirely to his own energy, sportsmanlike conduct, and personal popularity. He worked hard summer and winter alike, took the rough with the smooth, and always did his best to show sport: and during the four years in which he was in office an excellent feeling towards the Hunt existed throughout the country.

When Mr Fred Usher accepted the mastership of the Berwickshire Hounds he arranged to take Hall with him, and it therefore fell to the lot of Mr Gillon to appoint a new huntsman. In his choice he was fortunate, for Sam Morgan, junior, whom he engaged, has shown sport in spite of

¹ Minute-book, vol. ii. p. 237.

² Ibid., p. 250.

³ Wallhouse was sold in 1904 to its present owner, Mr James Wood.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

difficulties, has done much towards improving the pack, and through his civility and invariable good humour, has won the regard of all with whom he has come in contact. Although this was his first place as huntsman, he was not wanting in experience. Besides having been whipper-in to the Brocklesby, the Bramham Moor, the Quorn, Sir Watkin Wynn's and the Badsworth, he had occasionally hunted the two last-mentioned packs, and when he came to Scotland he brought with him the knowledge which he had then acquired. During his first and second seasons he had Fred Hoxford and Will Cypher to turn hounds to him, while, when Hoxford left in 1908, Cypher was promoted to fill his place, and Jack Woodger, who came from the Duke of Buccleuch's establishment, was engaged as second whipper-in.

One of the first matters which Mr Gillon turned his attention to was the infusion of some fresh blood into the kennel, and probably he will always look back with a feeling of satisfaction on the purchase which he made in the summer of 1906, of a draft from the Atherstone pack. Four couples out of the five and a half of which it consisted were good hounds, and few could have been better in their work than their Dagon (1900) during the two seasons he was at Golfhall. Other drafts were got later, and although nearly all of them were useful, those which proved to be of the most service came from the Brocklesby, the Duke of Buccleuch's and the Cattistock in 1907, and from the Puckeridge



Photo by Kiliotti & Pigg, London.

MR. ANDREW GILLON ON SMOKE.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

in 1908. The Puckeridge bitches, like the Duke's, showed great quality, and, coming as they did from a plough country, were all line-hunters—Spotless and Winifred (1904) and Dauntless and Gaudy (1907) being the best. But while fresh blood was got partly by purchasing drafts, and partly through using the sires of other kennels—such as the Hurworth Tuscan (1901), the Grove Furrier (1905), the North Staffordshire Sailor (1905), the Atherstone Spencer (1904) and their Deacon (1906)—the best working lines then in the kennel were continued. Thus, Bangle (1903) became the dam of Comedy and Congress (1907); Blissful (1905), of Famous, Farmer, Frantic and Furrier (1908)—an exceptionally good litter by the Grove Furrier; Balmy (1905), of Denmark (1909); and Bluebell (1905), of Barrister (1909); while Delegate (1901) was the sire of Gameboy, Ransack and Ranter (1907); and Hostile (1902)—used only on account of his work—got Rompish (1907), Hemlock (1908) and Harkaway, Harlequin and Heedless (1909)—all of whom, Hemlock in particular, have done him credit.

The last hound list issued, that for 1909, contains the names of thirty-nine and a half couples, of which twenty-three and a half were bred at Golf-hall. If the pedigrees of these twenty-three and a half couples are examined, it will be found that three and a half can be traced through Fallacy and Forcible (1888)—two of the daughters of Fancy and Atherstone Trusty, previously mentioned—to

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

Gallopier in the Lothians' list for 1872; seven and a half, through Beauty (1888) to Belvoir Weathergage, and sixteen and a half to the Blankney Fairy (1883) and Belvoir Gordon (1886), and so again to Weathergage. It will also be found that fifteen and a half couples strain back through Genitor (1896) to Belvoir Gamester (1882), and twenty-one couples either to Captain Johnstone's Trueman (1884) or to his Templar (1888); that six and a half are descended from the Brocklesby Streamer (1891), through Sounder (1900); three and a half from the Warwickshire Hermit (1889), through Hamlet (1899) and Hostile (1902); seven couples from the Grove Harkaway (1885), partly through the Atherstone Comrade (1900) and partly through the North Staffordshire Sailor (1905); four couples from the Oakley Rhymer (1882), through Donovan (1895); and ten and a half from Lord Fitzwilliam's Chanter (1891).

In tracing these pedigrees, however, there is nothing of greater interest to be arrived at than the fact that ten couples have the blood of Hannibal¹ and Skilful,² hounds which were in the old Lothian, now the Duke of Buccleuch's, pack when that was brought into the country by Mr Baird of Newbyth, during the period in which the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire Hunt was in abeyance (1814-1825).

¹ The Lothian Hannibal (1820) by the Brocklesby Pleader (1812)—Belvoir Susan (1811).

² The Lothian Skilful (1820) by Mr Villebois' Solon—Lord Darlington's Merkin.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

Of these ten couples, the lines of eight run through Darling (1895) and the Duke of Buccleuch's Trident (1892); those of one and a half through the Duke's Gossip (1905), and that of one hound, Astor (1904), through his sire, the Duke's Agent (1896).

Turning to the sport shown — although each of the four seasons over which this mastership extended provided its share, the third was undoubtedly the best, as, indeed, it was the best for some years. The country was then well stocked with foxes, and the holding scent which it carried on many occasions enabled hounds to place a number of good runs to their credit.

The cub-hunting of 1906 was a satisfactory one, and while, during the winter and spring months, there were no runs of outstanding merit, there were many good days, the best probably being the 9th of March (1907), when hounds met at Belsyde. Finding in the coverts above the house, they raced by Kipps Castle, Haddie's Walls, the Witch craig, Upper Craigmailling and Wairdlaw to Longmuir, hunting from that to Binny craig, and afterwards puzzling out the line over the Oatridge steeple-chase course to Ochiltree Castle.¹

In 1907, in consequence of an unusually wet autumn and late harvest—there was barley standing out in the field in the last month of the year—regular hunting was not begun until the 16th of November; but many fair hunts, the

¹ 'The Scotsman,' 11th March 1907.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

most noteworthy of which occurred on the 3rd and 21st of December, followed the opening day. On the first of these dates, after meeting at Houstoun House, hounds ran and hunted alternately for the space of two hours and twenty-five minutes, covering a considerable tract of country at a good pace all over. With a Cousland fox they ran fast to Livingstone wood, crossed the railway beyond, and went on over Dechmont parks to the Byres, where they checked. But Morgan put them right, and after working steadily by Drumcross and Rankin's wood to Craigs, they again ran fast over the grass to Cairnpapple and from that to Wallhouse. Then, breaking by Broompark and swinging left-handed, they carried the line by Hilderston, Ballencrieff, Cairnpapple, and the Witch craig towards B'ormie, just short of which the hunt was brought to an end by reason of the shooting of the coverts there.¹ On the 21st of the month, Philpstoun House was the fixture, and two capital runs ensued. It was a heavy country which hounds crossed when holloaed away from covert near Fawnspark, but the pace was of the best as they ran by Burnside, the Braes o' Mar, Ochiltree Castle, Broomieknowes, Beecraigs and Whitebaulks to Hillhouse. There they were at fault, and although they recovered the line soon afterwards, it was only to hunt slowly over the grass around Preston and Williamsraig. In the afternoon scent was

¹ 'The Scotsman,' 4th December 1907.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

as good as it had been at first, and hounds ran nicely from Longmuir by North Mains, Wairdlaw, the Witch craig and Cairnpapple to the Knock, and thence over the Bathgate hills to Ballenerieff, where, in darkness rendered more intense by a thick mist, they marked their fox to ground.¹

On the 1st of the following month of March (1908) tidings were received of the sad death, at Pau, of the late Lord Linlithgow, who, for some time previously, had been in ill-health. Although out hunting with the pack at Hopetoun on the 16th of November—one of the last days on which he saw hounds at work—his lordship was not able to do more than ride about on a pony, and a week or two later he left home, in the hope that a winter abroad would restore his strength. On the date of his death, the 29th of February, the fixture was Riccarton, Linlithgowshire, where, on the same day of the same month, the hounds had met a hundred years before. In consequence of this coincidence the event was looked forward to with more than usual interest, but wintry weather made hunting impossible, and the appointment was not kept. “In this, however, lay the hand of Providence, for it would have accorded little with the feelings of the members of the Hunt if the cry of hounds had resounded through the country on this Leap Year’s Day upon which one of the truest and best of sportsmen, one of the keenest of fox-

¹ ‘The Scotsman,’ 23rd December 1907.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

hunters, and the steadiest and most liberal supporter of the pack, breathed his last. By the death of the seventh Earl of Hopetoun and first Marquis of Linlithgow, the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire Hunt has lost a friend whose place will not readily be filled, the farmer, a kind and sympathetic landlord, and the country, a man whom it will mourn widely, deeply, and sincerely for many a day to come.”¹

The cub-hunting of that year (1908) was a most satisfactory one in every respect; and so many were the good runs which occurred during the regular season, that it is difficult to decide which was the best.² One of the earliest was a fast sixty minutes all over grass, on the 7th of November, and hounds were only handled once between Bangour, close to which the run began, and Muiravonside, where the fox saved his brush by going to ground.³ Two good hunting runs, each with a point of some six miles, followed almost immediately,—the first taking place from a fixture at Wallhouse on the 21st of the month, when hounds traversed a nice line of country between Cairnpapple and the coverts at Three-mile-town;⁴ and the second on the 12th of December when, after meeting at Muiravonside, they pursued a fox found

¹ ‘The Scotsman,’ 2nd March 1908—from article contributed by the author.

² In this season the number of foxes killed was $32\frac{1}{2}$ brace—one well above the average.

³ ‘The Scotsman,’ 9th November 1908.

⁴ ‘The Field,’ 28th November 1908.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

on the Stirlingshire bank of the Avon, near Redford, to Champfleurie.¹ A chase through a wild country, from Williamston covert to the Easter Cairn and thence to Spittal hill—about eight miles as the crow flies—briefly describes the sport of the 8th of December;² while on the 15th, hounds worked well in the Howden district, for over two hours, before they ran into their fox in the open, near Houstoun House.³ Ten days later the country was bound by frost, and it seemed as if the hunting of 1908 were at an end, but the rapid thaw which set in on the 30th of the month enabled Mr Gillon to keep his fixture at Westwood on the last day of the year, and resulted in another run—from Cousland to Calderwood—taking place.⁴ As, with sport, the old year ended, so, with sport, the new year began,—the 2nd of January (1909) being productive of a good run from Bangour, with a point of between five and six miles, over a line probably not dissimilar to that which Major Ponsonby Cox had in his mind's eye when he wrote,—

“Bangour has held a fox to-day;
And now with heaving flank,
Long, gaunt, and grey—if all goes well
His line is Gowanbank.”⁵

After pointing for Bankhead and South Mains, hounds ran westwards by the Witch craig to Cairn-

¹ ‘The Scotsman,’ 14th December 1908.

² Ibid., 9th and 11th December 1908.

³ Ibid., 16th December 1908.

⁴ Ibid., 2nd January 1909.

⁵ ‘The Opening of the Line,’ by Ponsonby Cox, 1886, p. 47.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

papple, and thence, at a great pace, by Nethermuir and Bridgecastle to Over Hillhouse—about a mile to the south-east of Gowanbank—where the chase ended in darkness.¹

It was a fox well hunted through a difficult country—from Ravelrig by Dalmahoy, Riccarton, Juniper Green, and Baberton—which Morgan handled at The Farm, Colinton, on the 18th February (1909), and the mask which now hangs at Golfhall serves to remind him of the good work done by Farmer and Furrier on that occasion. Although the hills were white with snow when hounds met at Longcroft on the 16th of March, the sun shone brightly as they ran from the Flints over Bonnytoun hill to Sunnyside, and from that—the pace improving as they ran—by the Binns, the western shore at Hopetoun, and Philpstoun House to the banks of the canal at Fawnspark, where, led by Dauntless (1905), they pulled down as game a fox as huntsman could wish to hunt.² On the 23rd of the same month there was another run from Williamston covert, this time to the Wester Cairn, and although the chase virtually ended when that was reached, Mr Gillon, who kept to the right-of-way track, was fortunate enough to get in touch with hounds near Baddingsgill and so follow them for a mile or more in the direction of Carlops.³ But these runs to the Pentlands, of which there were perhaps an unusual number between the years

¹ 'The Scotsman,' 4th January 1909.

² Ibid., 17th March 1909.

³ Ibid., 25th March 1909.



Fig. 10.

THE KENNELS, GOLFHALL.

Photo by Auld, Edinburgh.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

1906 and 1910, generally ended in many hounds being left out all night, an occurrence which Mr Gillon disliked and always did his best to prevent.

The season ended formally on the 27th of March, but three days later there was a bye-day at Wester Drumcross where Mr Dawson, a very good friend of the Hunt, gave all who met hounds a hearty welcome. This appointment brought about one of the fastest runs ever seen in the country by those who took part in it; and neither huntsman nor field had more than an occasional glimpse of hounds from the moment that, after winding their fox from the road, they dashed into the strip of plantation north of Dechmont west-lodge, till they reached Bowden-hill some forty minutes later.¹

It was in this season that two accidents of an unusually serious nature happened to the pack. On the 19th of January 1909, after meeting at Boll o' Bere, on the old Lanark road, hounds ran a fox, which they had found at the Rhiins, on to the railway viaduct near Oakbank, and several couples, leaping the parapet, fell nearly ninety feet into the valley of the Linhouse water below. Coverlet was killed outright, Gamecock had to be destroyed, and although Winifred, Corporal, Archer, Darter and Famous ultimately recovered, all were very seriously injured. A sorrier sight, however, was that seen on the 27th of February, when two and a half couples of

¹ 'The Scotsman,' 31st March 1909.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

hounds—Songster, President, Waverer, Rhymer, and Furrier—were cut to pieces on the railway which passes through the Haining wood near Almond Castle, a tragedy which robbed a fair day's sport of much of its enjoyment. These accidents called forth the sympathy of the members of the field who, feeling that the losses sustained should not rest wholly with the masters, spontaneously contributed towards replacing the hounds killed and injured, and by doing so pleased both Sir Robert Usher and Mr Gillon. But the calamities which occurred were not confined to the pack, since on the 19th of January Morgan received such bodily hurt in getting a fox which hounds had killed in Williamston covert out of it, that he was unable to be in his accustomed place for a fortnight. During that time Mr Gillon carried the horn and hunted hounds in the quiet and sportsmanlike manner which might have been expected of him; and it was after two hours and forty-five minutes' good work that he killed his first fox from a fixture at Starlaw on the 26th of January¹—a day which he is not likely to forget.

The last season of this mastership and the last which falls within the compass of this history was a disappointing one from the beginning. Broken weather retarded the cutting of the grain crop when that was ripe, and cub-hunting was conducted under difficulties; while the melancholy

¹ 'The Scotsman,' 27th January 1909.

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

death of Mr Fred Usher on the 27th October, on the eve, so to speak, of regular hunting, spread a gloom throughout the country. For his was one of those gentle and kindly natures which have no enemies but numerous friends who, grieving his loss, found the days which followed fraught with many sad memories. Frost, which had interfered with the work of the pack on the last day of cub-hunting, afterwards came and went only to come again, and since hunting was stopped on twenty-two occasions, runs were few and far between. Probably the best days were the 13th of November, when there were two good hunts in the Kinneil district, each exceeding an hour;¹ the 8th of February, when hounds ran well for some sixty minutes over a snow-clad country between Beecraigs and Binnybridge;² and the 1st of March when, late in the afternoon, a fox found at Craigbinning was pursued at a fair pace by The Law and Hangingside to Champfleurie, and thence by Ochiltree Castle and the Braes o' Mar to Ecclesmachan covert, where he was killed.³

The meet at Torphichen on the last day of the season—a new and most popular appointment, for which Mr Gillon deserves credit—was always largely attended, and each year the crowd which assembled in the square of that picturesque little village seemed to become greater. The enthusiasm which the keeping of the fixture created, al-

¹ 'The Scotsman,' 15th November 1909.

² Ibid., 9th February 1910.

³ Ibid., 2nd March 1910.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

though gratifying to both masters, must have been particularly so to Mr Gillon, since it was in the neighbourhood of Wallhouse, and therefore in the district in which he had passed many of his early days, that the event took place. Apart from the regular members of the field, there were to be found among those who met hounds on such occasions many of the Hunt's best friends and well-wishers. Of these perhaps none is better known or more respected in the district than Mr John Thomson, who occupies, as his father and grandfather did before him, the position of overseer at Wallhouse. In his snug home above the village he always had a second breakfast for the master and a few other friends and brother-sportsmen; for although he no longer hunts, there were, at one period of his life, few days on which he was not out with hounds when they met on his side of the country. Mounted on his grey mare, he was then a very familiar figure in the field, and no man, it is said, could recount more graphically than he what hounds had done, or what is more, how they had done it. Without a doubt there would also be present Mr Woodcock, the landlord of the "Star and Garter," Linlithgow, and with him most likely Mr George Simpson, Falkirk. Mr Woodcock, whose father had been whipper-in to the Pytchley under Charles Payne during the mastership of the sixth Lord Hopetoun, became second-horseman to his lordship as far back as the year 1860, and while for fifteen seasons he saw a fair

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

share of the sport shown by Mr Tailby, the Pytchley and the Quorn, he has since taken part in many good runs in the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire country. From the day he first came to Linlithgow in 1875, until recently, he has always had a hunter, has always ridden forward, and was, as he is, a keen and good sportsman, and very popular with all classes. Although "Geordie Simpson" has never ridden to hounds, it is safe to say that no man in the country has worn out more shoe-leather in following them than he has; and, be the weather what it might, it has never kept him at home on a hunting day. But now that gout and rheumatism have become his constant companions, Cockleroi and Binny craig see less of him than they did in the past, and it is generally from the seat of a dog-cart that he views the proceedings. Mr Kerr, Linlithgow, who always hunts "on wheels," would be pretty sure to be there, and since he knows the run of the foxes as well as he knows the country, which is saying a great deal, he can generally give as good an account of what has taken place in the course of the day's work as many a well-mounted man. Unless a "contract" required his attention elsewhere, Mr Callander, Bathgate, who supplies the hunting gates and makes the jumping-places in the wire fences, would, of course, put in an appearance; for he usually has a horse that will "ride" as well as "drive," and it is therefore seldom that he misses an opportunity of hunting when hounds

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

are within his reach. The love of the chase which old B'ormie possessed has descended to his grandson, Mr James Young, Linlithgow, who, Mr J. G. B. Henderson, the honorary treasurer, says, sits in his office and dreams of hunting. But although office work may frequently prevent Mr Young from gratifying his sporting inclinations, he would no doubt make a special effort to be at Torphichen on the last day of the season, and therefore he too might have been found among the glad throng assembled there. It is a long hack from Parkhead to Torphichen village, and if Mr Ross, the head forester at Hopetoun, did not attend the fixture he would almost certainly join the hunt later, riding the good little bay presented to him by the late Lord Linlithgow, and valued accordingly. For years he went well on old Indecision, a horse which Mr Cross gave him; and it is largely owing to his care that the big wood, the saw-mill glen, and the covert on the western shore at Hopetoun have almost invariably held a good litter of cubs in the autumn.

That the compact entered into between Sir Robert Usher and Mr Gillon, in 1906, should be dissolved at the close of the past season, was a circumstance very generally regretted. For some weeks after their resignation became known, a not unnatural anxiety as to the future existed, but that was eventually set at rest by the announcement that Sir Robert was willing to return to office, and that he and Mr Arthur James Meldrum of



Photo by Ellbitt & Fry, London.

SIR ROBERT USHER, MR GILLON, AND THE HOUNDS AT NORTON.

W. CYPHIL, MR J. H. RUTHERFURD, SIR ROBERT USHER, S. MORGAN, LADY USHER, MR GILLON, J. WOODGER,
 (out Huddersfield) (Horn, Secy.) (M.F.H.) (Huntsman.) (M.F.H.) (and Whippet.)

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

Dechmont were prepared to hunt the country during the following season.¹ In this scheme Mr Gillon acquiesced, and while all deplored the loss of his services, which had been of the greatest value, the arrangement was welcomed as a most satisfactory one. Mindful of Mr Gillon's good work, his hunting and other friends did not allow his retirement to pass without proof of the regard in which he was held, and towards the end of April last, an opportunity was taken of presenting him with a silver hunting-horn and a couple of hunters as a memento of his mastership.² But this was not the only compliment paid to him; and the fact that he received other gifts—one from the lady members of the field, and another from the second-horseman in the Hunt—shows how extremely popular his mastership had been.

Mr Meldrum, who now joins Sir Robert Usher, is no stranger in the country. Between the years 1891 and 1901 he and his brothers, the late Mr E. B. Meldrum, and Mr T. Meldrum, and his sister, now Mrs Stephen, all hunted from Dechmont, which, then as now, might have been termed a home of sport. For besides a considerable stud of hunters, there were beagles there in those days, and many good runs were enjoyed with this little pack. Several of the hunters ran well both between the flags and in point-to-point races,—Williamston, Patrician, and Cumberland Lass being victorious on more than one occasion; while Tyro-

¹ Minute-book, vol. iii. p. 24.

² Ibid., p. 27.

HISTORY OF THE LINLITHGOW

lean, whose chestnut head was often to be seen looking out over the half-door of his loose-box near the house after he had been "pensioned," distinguished himself by winning the Scottish Grand National of 1899 and the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire Hunt Cup at Oatridge in that year. In 1909, after several winters spent in the Grafton country, Mr Meldrum came to live on his property at Dechmont, and in hunting regularly last season with the pack which he had first followed in the year 1886, has renewed many old friendships.

In bringing this narrative to a conclusion, it is not inappropriate to acknowledge the unvarying kindness shown by Sir Robert Usher towards the Hunt during these later years, or to wish him and Mr Meldrum good sport in a country which at one time was considered the best in Scotland, and which, in spite of drawbacks, is still well worthy of being hunted.

The pictures reproduced give to this history an interest which it would not otherwise have had, and although they are numerous, yet another, "The First Morning's Cub-hunting," may be conjured up. It is dark as the place of meeting—the forester's house at Parkhead—is approached, and so still, that it is difficult to believe that from thirty to fifty couples of hounds stand waiting in the shelter of that ivy-covered wall. But the grey dawn of a September morning steals in swiftly and, as soon as there is light sufficient, the master gives orders for the big wood to be drawn. To the covert-

AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT

side, in silence, the hounds are led, the whippers-in get quickly to their places, and the few sportsmen present, more than one of whom, probably, have ridden out from Edinburgh in the dark, distribute themselves with the view of being useful. At a signal from the huntsman, every hound save a puppy or two has dashed in, eager for the fray, and Hopetoun

“waves above them her green leaves
Dewy with Nature’s tear-drops as they pass,”

not grieving, but rejoicing at the advent of the pack, at the crash with which they find their fox, and the all but heavenly cry which follows.

“Resonat latratibus ether.”



APPENDIX I.

HUNTING DIARY¹

OF

MR GEORGE RAMSAY OF BARTON.

1807.

- Oct. 8. Sauchie.² Much running, hounds tired. Restless, grey, Mr B.—black mare.
9. Sauchie. Much running, one to ground, dig him, kill one. Restless, grey, Mr B.—black mare, Raby mare Ld. E.—
10. Turn a fox down on Gallow muir, very smart run to Woodside, kill him in an open field. Restless, grey, Mr B.—black mare, Goldfinder Ld. E.—
12. Find at Hunters Folly, run to ground at Castle Rankine, not out. Goldfinder, grey, B. mare, Grog Lord E.— Lose $9\frac{1}{2}$ couple of hounds in a waste, get them next day.
15. Find at Genl. Maxwell's, run to ground at West Quarter, chop 2 foxes afterwards,—one above Genl. Maxwell's, the other near Almond Castle.—Plough Boy, Cavendish, Mr B.—B. mare.
17. Falkirk muir. Find in Graham's Dike west end, run westward and turn east, lose him at Falkirk muir. Find in the stripe west of Forbes's farm, run to the iron stone pits. Restless, Goldfinder, Paddy, B.M., Star Ld. E.—
19. Bowden. Find & run for three hours, kill. P. Boy, Cavendish, Mr B.—grey.

¹ For the sake of brevity, the names of Mr Ramsay's hunters, and the notes of his weight, referred to on pages 47, 58, 61, and 62 of the text, are omitted.

² Mr Ramsay's property in Stirlingshire.

APPENDIX I.

1807.

- Oct. 22.^c Kinneil wood. Find & run to ground opposite Mr Livingstone's, find again at Muiravonside, good sport, kill at a small plantation near the Stirling road north side. Restless, Goldfinder, Paddy, B. mare.
24. Genl. Maxwell's. Wet day, don't find.
26. Larbert. Foggy day, don't thro' off, not out.
27. Blank day at Keir, not out.
29. Find at Sauchie, run to Canglour, loch Coultar, and back to Canglour, kill under a large stone, not out.
31. Find at Plean, run to ground, not out, no sport.
- Nov. 2. Dunmore Park. Kill 2 brace, no sport, not out.
4. Kill one at Craigmarloch.
5. Hounds not out.
7. Castle Carry. Find three, run two to ground,—one at Glassfords & another at the Vont Glen,¹—hounds split, try all round the country. Don't find again. Restless, Goldfinder, Mr B.—grey horse, chestnut Star Lord E.—
9. Find at Craigmarloch, much running about Cumbernauld, bad scenting day, give it up at Castle Carry, not out.
17. Corstorphine hill. Find several foxes, very bad scenting, no sport, try Lenny, don't find. Ploughboy, Port, Mr B.—grey horse, Lord E.—Whalebone.
26. Dundas hill. Find in small cover west end, run round the hill and kill immediately in the parks. Find again same place, run to ground south of Humble in a drain. Ploughboy, Whalebone, Mr B. grey horse.
- Corstorphine hill. Windy day, find, make nothing of it. Try Lenny and don't find. Find several at Craigie hill, sharp run with one to the earths in Craigie Hall avenue. Restless, Whalebone, Paddy, Black mare, Joe on Star.
- Dec. 14. Drumshoreland muir. Fox went away (while Tom and the hounds were in the large whin) as hard as possible, through Houston wood, over Dechmont, Bangour, cross the Glasgow road three miles west Uphall, kill him about a mile to the north of the road. Restless, Whalebone, Paddy, B. mare. George Ramsay's horse nearly dead in the field.

¹ The Vont or Vault Glen, below Cumbernauld House.

APPENDIX I.

1807.

- Dec. 15. Try Lenny, don't find; find at Corstorphine, run him a ring by Craig Crook, and another by Barnton & Cramond House back to the hill, bad scenting. Cavendish, Goldfinder, Mr B.—grey horse.
17. Find a brace at Duntarvie, run through Hopeton wood. by Midup, Hopeton House, Dalmeny town, Munch hill, to the sea east of Luchold, along the sea-shore to the Halls, cross the road top of Halls brae, and right away back, kill near the garden at Hopeton House, cold hunting, hounds remarkably steady. Restless, Goldfinder, Mr B.—grey horse.
19. Meet at Ravelrig, don't throw off on account of the fog.
21. Meet at Ravelrig, find in Lord Morton's park, run several rings in the park and a long time in the cover, at view every minute. Another fox goes away to the eastward, north of Riccarton, and Baberton, lose him on Gyle muir, very bad scenting. Restless, Goldfinder, Paddy, black mare.
22. Meet at Riccarton, find, run eastward a short way, then north, cross Lithgow road at the 13 mile stone, by Philipstone mill, into Midhope glen, towards the earths on the sea shore, lose him. Find a brace at Duntarvie, make nothing of them, bad scent, try Dundas, don't find. Ploughboy, Whalebone, Mr B.—grey horse.
24. Thursday. Meet at Drumshoreland, find on a drag, a number of hares, some person stops the hounds, try on to the round cover. Find in it, run a ring, lose him. Find again in the scar west under Iliston, run by Kilpunt, west of new Liston, by Niddrie, Dundas, to Lord Rosebery's, lose him, bad scent and very late. Ploughboy, Goldfinder, Paddy, B. mare, M'Lean on Cavendish.
26. Saturday. Meet at 12 mile stone, find opposite Sir Jas. Dalziels, run to the 12 mile stone covers, west by Phillipstone loch, and south over Binny craig where he was headed and turned north, kill him a little south of Dolphinton. Ploughboy, Whalebone, Mr B.—grey horse.
29. Meet at Lauriston kennel, try Genl. Maxwell's, Livingstone's plantations, patches near Almond Castle,

APPENDIX I.

Muiravonside, blank day. Very cold and wet.
Ploughboy, G.finder, Mr B.—B. mare, Lord E.—Star.

1808

- Jan. 2. Find at Torphichen bridge—a brace—instantly get hounds together, run south of Wallhouse, turn north to Bowden, much running in the cover, run a fox towards Muiravonside, cross the water, bothered with Livingstone's harriers, return to Bowden, find again, run towards Genl. Ferrier's, through Dr Seton's, near the new manse south of Lithgow, turn over the hill west of Riccarton, down through the cover, over Binnie craig, kill south of Binnie House. Murray and myself only up with the hounds, having gone round south side of Cockle Roy; famous run. Whalebone, Murray his old horse, Cavendish at a standstill, old Paddy, grey horse.
8. Bonny Bridge. Try from thence to Falkirk muir, find there, run into a drain at Mr Wisharts, not out, sore leg.
9. Meet at kennel, try all the covers south of Callender wood, don't find, not out.
11. Hunters Folly. Find, run through the water near Dunnipace, north, then west, near to Mount-riddle, to Torwood. Kill near Dunnipace, not out.
14. Kinneil wood. Find in a small patch near Lithgow close by the roadside, run past the printfield to ground in a rabbit-hole by the roadside near the gravel pits Falkirk road—Plough Boy, Goldfinder, Mr B.—grey, Elph. Star.
19. Torphichen bridge. Find outside of the covert, run west and back again to Torphichen town by Wallhouse, thro' the cover again to Bowden,—three foxes at least on foot—one goes away from east end of Bowden over Cockle Roy, south towards Bathgate, hounds split, Elphinstone and I follow some hounds east as far as Uphall, he goes home, and I come to K. Cd. P. Boy, Goldfinder, Mr B.—grey, Lord E.—chestnut Star.
- Feb. 1. Dunmore Park. Find, run towards Torwood, bad scenting, not out.
5. Hunters Folly. Don't find, wet wild day. Whalebone, Gold F., Mr B. grey horse.

APPENDIX I.

1808.

- Feb. 20. Dundas. Find at Craigie hill, run to ground in Ld. Rosebery's east of long green. Find again at Lenny, run to Corstorphine, all round it and back to Lenny, give it up in the cover late. Whalebone, Cavendish, Mr B.—black mare, Ld. E.—chestnut.
22. Dalmahoy. Find in the field south of Ravelrig, run over the hill towards Kaimes and down to Burnwynd into a drain. Find another at Meadowbank, run east of Kaimes House, west again by Meadowbank, and then right away to Calder wood, to ground, bad scenting. Ploughboy, Goldfinder, Paddy, grey horse.
25. Duntarvie. Breaks at north end of cover, headed back through the cover again, away towards Dundas, turn short west of Humble, run south cross Lithgow road, through Ld. Hopeton's plantation, west of Newliston, and right away to Elliston, lose him. Try Drumshoreland, don't find. Restless, Whalebone, Mr B.—black mare.
27. Drumshoreland. Find in large cover, run south, lose him north of Glasgow road and west of Newliston. Try Dundas, find at Craigie, run thro' Ld. Rosebery's, hounds cross near Cramond town, thro' the parks about Barnton, lose him in Corstorphine hill. Restless, Goldfinder, Paddy, grey horse, Ld. E.—Sykes.
29. Riccarton. Find two foxes, get the hounds away with one, very wild run to 12 milestone covers, thro' them, kill under the craig east of Craigton. Find a brace at Duntarvie, run one thro' the end of Hopeton wood, down over the earths towards Hopeton House, through the deer park, and pleasure grounds east sea-side right up by Duddingstone, through the covers at Duntarvie, and to ground in the great earths near Hopeton wood. Ploughboy, Whalebone, Mr B.—Pallifox mare, Lord E.—his Star, hackney mare.
- Mar. 3. Meadow Bank. Ravelrig and Dalmahoy hill side. Find in Lord Morton's park, very bad scent owing to dryness and heat of the day, no sport. Try Ratho muir and the covers at Norton, don't find. Ploughboy, Goldfinder, grey horse, Pallifox mare.
5. Find at Drumshoreland muir, run north to Winchburgh, hounds streaming along, lose him. Try at Sir James

APPENDIX I.

1808.

Dalziel's Phillipstone mill, &c. Find in a small cover south of three mile town, run east and then north to near 12 milestone covers, turn short south, cross the Riccarton road, by Binny House, south of the Craig to Riccarton cover, through the south side of it, over the hill west and south, kill at Silver Craigs limeworks. Restless, Whalebone, Paddy, B. mare, Ld. E.—Star, not up. A famous run, Murray, Louis Ferrier, —, —,¹ farmer Duncan, come up immediately. Hislop and myself first, Granger not far behind. Horses all tired.

Mar. 7. Drumshoreland. Blank day.

10. Riccarton. Find, run over Cockle Roy, by Bowden, Muiravonside, Parkhall, to ground near Stirling road, east of Rumford road. Ploughboy, Goldfinder, Mr B.—black mare, Sir John Hope on his show horse first up.
12. Dalmahoy. Don't find till, after trying all Drumshoreland muir, two foxes stole away, run across the water at Illiston to Clifton Hall, cross again there, lose him, very dry. Whalebone, GoldF., Paddy, grey horse.
14. Cockle Roy, Bowden, Mr Ferrier's. Find south of Bowden, run through Bowden, by Muiravonside, west, and kill near the west end of Mr Livingstone's young cover in the gill. Ploughboy, Major, Mr B.—mare. A famous run—the fox got up at view and ran through several fields without ever breaking view.
16. Find at Torphichen bridge, run west, turn short down the water, north by Muiravonside to Mr Livingstone's banks, over the earths opposite side, through the river again, all over Mr Livingstone's park, west through Ld. Dundas's fields, cross the great Stirling road, into a drain in a cabbage garden east end of Polmont: take him out and give to the hounds. Plough Boy, Whalebone, Paddy, grey. Murray and Binning out.
24. Hounds out at Orbiston, bad scenting, run over to ground, not out, unwell.
26. Find a leash, run one to ground in Garrion Gill, good sport. Lord E.—out, unwell myself.

¹ Two words illegible.

APPENDIX I.

1808.

- Mar. 28. Find at Carnbroe, kill, not much sport, unwell.
 30. Hamilton wood.
 31. Find at Orbiston, run by Jerviston, Dalziel, Shiel muir, Wishaw, Coltness, and back to Shiel muir, kill. Ploughboy, B. Mare, Paddy, Major, Ld.E.—Grog.
- April 2. Milnburn. Find, bad scent. Find another opposite Mauldslie, run to ground Nethan-foot. Ploughboy, Goldfinder, Grey Mr B.,—Lord E.—Grog.
5. Find in Hamilton wood, short run, kill. Ploughboy, Goldfinder, Ld. E.,—not out.
7. Find opposite Mauldslie, run near two hours in cover, kill. Find another on Avon banks, sharp run towards Nethan-foot, kill in a whinny muir.
9. Find on Avon banks, run one to ground. 3 couple hounds go away with another towards covers opposite Mauldslie—no one with them. Try Milnburn, Shilliton, and all about, don't find again.
11. Orbiston. Not out.
13. Castle Carry. Much running, kill, not out.
15. Graigmarloch. Find at Croy mill. Famous run, kill south of Fannyside moss. Whalebone, B. mare Mr B.,—Ld. E.—Grog.
16. Castle Carry. Blank,—after trying the whole country.
18. Carnbroe. Find, run by Shawfields, Holytown, Rosehall, storm of snow, give it up, not out.
22. Find at Sauchie, run to ground, not out.
23. Find at Sauchie, kill, not out.
- Sept. 26. Find three foxes at Genl. Maxwell's and Dr Smith's, kill one.
27. Find east of Dr Smith's and run thro' Genl. Maxwell's, two or three foxes on foot, run one south and kill near Muiravonside.
28. Bowden. Find, one goes away, don't follow him, run about the cover. Find afterwards at Muiravonside, smart run to Mr Livingstone's, cross the water, back again towards Almond Castle, lose him.
30. Falkirk muir. Find in Graham's Dyke, run thro' Bonny Hill, back by Mr Wishart's, by Mr Forbes's farm to ground Tippit craig.
- Oct. 1. Find at Bonny Hill, two foxes. A number of [hounds] tumble into an ironstone pit. Lambton, Cruiser, Herdsman, and Strenuous killed. No sport, not out.

APPENDIX I.

1808.

- Oct. 4. Sauchie. Don't find till we get to Gillis¹ hill, no sport, 3 foxes on foot.
6. Dunmore Park. Find at Plain, run to ground Plain Bank, take him out.
8. Hunters Folly. Find and run to Carron glen, all through Hunters Folly and Heads wood, kill in open fields south of Heads wood, famous sport.
10. Meet at Denovan, try all about to Torrewood, Plain Bank. Find at Willie Lindsay's cover, run through Campbell's plantations back to the cover, and east towards B. burn,² then to ground near Auchenbowie farm stead—take him out.
12. Turn one down at Keir, kill him immediately. Another turned into Keir wood also killed, no sport.
15. Turn Willie Lindsay's fox down near Cowie—18 minutes' law—a very pretty run to Plain Bank to ground.
18. Try Smith's cover, all Livingstone's covers on the muirs. Find in a small belt west of Mr Johnstone's, goes to ground in a drain immediately.
20. Try Bowden and all about. Find in the glen north Muiravonside House, a neat sharp run to Bowden, kill.
22. Torphichen bridge. Find a brace, run west and then back through the cover down the water and up to Bowden. Run to ground under a large stone, bolt him, and kill after a sharp run to the west and south of Bowden.
25. Find at Ravelrig right hand side of road—run through the low cover, west over Dalmahoy hill, east, and through Dalmahoy parks, to Ravelrig covers, and down over Dalmahoy hill to the Dalmahoy parks, towards the east, then back again over the west wall, towards the west end of Dalmahoy hill, short down to near Spittleton house where we kill. A dreadful storm of wind and rain.
27. Drumshoreland muir. Find on a drag, make nothing of it. Find again east of great wood near Mr Erskine's lodges, very bad scenting, lose him. Go to Dundas, find there, run till dark, no sport.
29. Find at Craigie hill, several foxes, run one to Barnbogle,

¹ Gillis or Gallows Hill, near Sauchie.

² Bannock-burn.

APPENDIX I.

1808.

lose him, return to Craigie hill, run him to ground at Barnbogle. Try Dundas and Craigbrae, find at Lenny, run to Corstorphine to ground, kill a badger, almost dark.

Oct. 31. Riccarton. Find, run over Binny craig, by the house, south to near Houston, west through the covers on the muir towards Silver Craigs—back to Riccarton, run half an hour in the cover, over Binny craig, kill near Binny House.

Nov. 1. Young hounds out at Corstorphine hill, run to ground there. Find a brace at Lenny, run to Corstorphine hill, back towards Lenny, kill near Col. Stewart's upon the Linlithgow road. Servants only out.

3. Duntarvie. Find a brace, run through Hopeton wood, kill near the garden. Find at Sir James Dalziel's gate, run south, lose him near Hopeton House.

5. Norton. Dalmahoy, Ravelrig, Lenny, blank.

7. Binny. Riccarton, find in small whin south 3 milestone from Lithgow—through Philipstone covers, by Binns, to earths at sea-side, through the parks, up Midup glen, east of Philipstone House, by the loch to Bitch-and-fury, cross Edinr. road west about two miles, short back by B.-and-fury to Philipstone covers, hounds whipt off, very bad scenting.

8. Duntarvie, Hopeton wood, Sir James Dalziel's cover—don't find.

10. Drumshoreland. Find a brace immediately in large cover, run one cross the river by Almondell, back again towards the lodges, one breaks with five couple of hounds at south-west corner of old wood and runs west by the kennel¹ to Livingstone House, try to stop these hounds and in coming back meet another fox going west. Find the body of the hounds near Elliston, where they had lost their fox, bring them to where I had met the fox, 40 minutes gone. Hounds run a little, give it up at Livingstone west gate.

12. Riccarton, Little Ochiltree, Duntarvie, Dundas, Lenny. Blank day.

14. Drumshoreland. Frost.

¹ The "Dog-houses."

APPENDIX I.

1808.

- Nov. 17. Bowden. Find at Torphichen bridge, a brace, run one to ground south of Torphichen village, take him out, turn him down two miles west of Muiravonside, run by Livingstone's long cover, past signal-post, down to Redden, by Genl. Maxwell's: give it up near Grangemouth, cold, bad scenting.
19. Meet at kennel, try blae wanders, covers south of Genl. Maxwell's, Almond Castle, Muiravonside, don't find.
22. Meet at Kinneil gate. Find behind Mr Cadell's at Grange, run south, and east towards Binns, west by Carriden, to ground where we found him, good sport. Try all the young covers opposite Mr Livingstone's, find at Avonton—an old dog-fox, kill him in the cover.
24. Meet at Mr Hamilton's cover south of Cockle Roy, find, have a sharp burst to Bowden and kill, find another in a cover west of Torphichen bridge, chop him in the cover—one of the foxes which were turned out last year.
26. Meet at Col. Duncan's, find at Bonny Hill, a good run over ironstone pits, west by Underwood, Castle Cary, kill in Dunns wood.
30. Meet at Red Burn Brig, find and chop in Graham's Dyke—Tom Granger ill.

1809.

- Jan. 31. Meet at Laurieston kennel, find in Mr Johnston's small cover close by his house, run east, back through Genl. Maxwell's wood, by West Quarter, through Callendar wood, down to blae wanders, south by Ridden, through Genl. M.'s wood, to ground in sandy bank opposite the Genl.'s gate.
- Feb. 2. Meet at Grange, try all the banks opposite Mr Livingstone's. Blank.
14. Duntarvie, Pardovan, Philipstone loch. Find at Dundas, run about the hill some time, kill in a farmyard north of the east gate—no sport.
16. Find a brace at Corstorphine hill, run one to ground at Leny. Find another there, run a long time in cover, to ground also—very high wind.
18. Find at large cover Drumshoreland muir, run south by Almondell, cross the bridge, Lady Morton's Lime Kills, lose him at Bonnington, dreadful high wind.

APPENDIX I.

1809.

Feb. 21. Try Duntarvie, Dundas, find at Craigie hill, run to ground—bad scent.

23. Try Ravelrig—round cover under it, find at Drumshoreland, fox stole away from north-east corner large field, run cross main lane to the house of Amondell, by Illiston, Kilpunt, west of Newliston and Humbie, to Duddingstone wood, Duntarvie, and to ground Hopeton wood—famous run. Large field—Huntly, Dalhousie, M'Lean, Wallace, Murray, Binning, Davie M'Dowall. Hounds behave uncommonly well.

25. Riccarton. Find at upper end, run east and down the road to north end of cover, right over the hill west of cover, along the belt north to lime-quarries, over Cockle Roy, Bowden, down to Bo'ness road, kill in belt west of Bellside, right-hand side of lane to Bowden. Famous run.

27. Try Corstorphine hill, find in belt west of Clermiston House, run up to Corstorphine hill, down to Ravelston, Murrayfield, back to hill southend—along the top by Barnton House,¹ over the wall behind the garden, down by Silver Knows, to ground in a drain north of Muirhouse.

28. Find at Craigie hill, run in cover one hour and three-quarters, kill a dog-fox. Find at Munch hill, run down to the sea-shore, by Barnbogle House, kill in water opposite Peggie's mill. Another goes away by Craigie Hall, cross the bridge, by Lennie hill, to Corstorphine hill, where Granger whipt off, only six couple of hounds—the others remaining with the fox opposite Peggie's miln.

Mar. 2. Drumshoreland muir. Blank.

4. Riccarton, cover south from it, Binnie, Little Ochiltree, Pardovan, get upon a drag at the earths near Blackness, run through Hopeton wood, make nothing of it.

10. Wishaw, Dalziel, &c.

11. Shilliton, Avon, &c.

13. Orbiston, to ground Carnbroe.

16. Coltness, near Orbiston to Wishaw.

18. Shilliton, Avon, &c.

¹ Old Barnton House.

APPENDIX I.

1809.

Mar. 20. Mauldslie, &c.

23. Carnbroe.

25. Stone Byers, Blackwood.

27. Mauldslie, to grd. D. Gairn.

28. Newhouse. Find near Monkland, to gr. at Wood Hall, killed.

31. Meet near Coltness, find at Logan's cover opposite race-ground at Hamilton, to ground Carnbroe.

April 1. Blackwood.

3. Avon Banks to ground.

4. Carnbroe to ground at Jerviston.

		Foxes kild.	to Gd.
Oct.	7. Sauchie	—	2
	9. Dunmore	2	—
	12. Plean. Turn one down at Gallow muir, to ground at Sauchie	—	1
	14. Hunters Folly	1	—
	16. Sauchie	—	2
	17. Cumbernauld	2	—
	18. Drum	1	—
	21. Mr Forbes's farm	1	1
	24. South of kennel	—	2
	26. Mr Livingstone's of Parkhall	—	2
	28. Craw hill, Bowden	2	2
	30. Plean and Torewood	—	2
Nov.	2. Muiravonside, chop one, run an- other to Bowden, chop another at Clerkston, one to ground at Bowden	3	1
	4. From Col. Gillon's to gd. at Craw hill, chop one at Muiravonside, another in small cover of Park- hall. Find at the long cover near Parkhall, lost at Falkirk muir	2	1
	7. Kinneil. Duke Hm's. cover blk.	—	—
	9. Kirkton, famous run	1	—
	11. Falkirk muir, ironstone pits, Tip- pet craig	—	2
	13. Dunmore Pk., Blk.	—	—
	16. Castle Rankin. Frost.	—	—

APPENDIX I.

1809.

		Foxes killd.	To Gd.
Nov.	21. Castle Rankin, Hunters Folly	—	—
	24. Corstorphine, Lenny	—	3
	25. Duntarvie, &c. Find at Dundas	—	1
	28. Drumshoreland, beat	—	—
	30. Ravelrig, beat	—	—
Dec.	1. Lord Rosebery's	—	1
	2. Riccarton	1	1
	5. Drumshoreland. Find at Norton, } at Gogar }	—	1
	7. Dundas, Ld. Rosebery's, &c.	—	—
	9. Riccarton, Hopeton, beat	—	—
	19. Lenny hill	1	—
	21. Drumshoreland, beat	—	—
	23. From Pardovan cover	1	—
	28. Clarkston	—	2

1910.

Jan.	2. Muiravonside. Chop at Muiravon- side muir. From large planta- tion west Parkhall to ground at Bonny Hill	}	1	2
	4. Bowden, Torphichen, &c. Blank			
	6. Bathgate, at Muiravonside		1	—

APPENDIX II.

RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE LINLITHGOW AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT CLUB.

1826.

1. The noblemen and gentlemen connected with the counties of Linlithgow and Stirling shall be eligible to become members, but none other.

2. Every candidate for admission shall in future be proposed at one meeting by a member, and seconded by another, and their names entered in the Book of Candidates to be kept by the secretary, and at the next meeting shall be balloted for; but no ballot shall take place unless five members are present. One black ball to exclude when the members present do not exceed seven; but if more, two black balls.

3. That a committee be appointed for managing the concerns of the Club: to consist of the preses, councillors, and two other members,—two a quorum,—the preses convener; and that the accounts thereof shall be laid before the general meeting of members, which shall take place on Wednesday nearest the full moon in the month of February in each year; and further, that the secretary, in absence of the preses, shall be authorised at the request of any one member of the committee to summon a meeting of said committee.

4. That every person, on being admitted a member, shall pay five sovereigns.

5. That every member shall pay annually one sovereign.

6. That the admission money and annual subscription be

APPENDIX II.

paid into the hands of the treasurer for the use of the Club, on or before the meeting in February in each year.

7. That the Club meet on Wednesday nearest the full moon in the months of November, February, & July in each year.

8. That every member shall wear at the meetings a blue coat with black velvet turn-down collar and yellow buttons, having emboss'd thereon the letters L.S.H., and a white kersimere waist-coat with similar buttons. Every member who shall appear at the Club in any other dress to forfeit an imperial gallon of claret for the use of the Club.

Note.—The buttons are to be had at Gardner's shop, Linlithgow.

9. The preses and councillors shall preside at the meetings of the Club, and shall be elected annually at the meeting in February.

10. Every member dining at the Club shall pay one sovereign to the treasurer: the remainder of the bill to be paid out of the funds of the Club.

11. Every member shall have the right of bringing one or more friends with him to dinner; such member always introducing his friends to the preses, and paying one sovereign for each to the treasurer.

12. That the preses shall be taken alternately from each county; and a councillor shall be taken from each county; and the meetings of the Club held alternately in Linlithgow and Falkirk.

13. That the preses, councillors, and one of the other members of the committee of management, go out annually, and remain out for one year at least.

14. That the committee of management select the members who are to replace those who go out, for the consideration and approval of the general meeting, in February in each year.

15. That no new rule or change of general rule be made without the sanction of at least two-thirds of the members present; and each new rule, or intended change of rule, must be proposed at one meeting, and decided on at the next, six members at the least being present.

16. That Provost Boyd, Linlithgow, be treasurer & secretary.

APPENDIX II.

17. That the foregoing rules & regulations, sixteen in number, be engrossed in the minute-book of the Club, and that the secretary shall cause them to be printed & circulated amongst the members.

Note.—Each member to be supplied with one upon admission.

(Signed)	THO. LIVINGSTON, <i>preses</i> .
„	C. L. CUMMING BRUCE, <i>councillor</i> .
„	J. BOYD, <i>secretary</i> .

LIST OF THE PRESES OF THE LINLITHGOW AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT CLUB.

- | | | |
|-------|---|-----------------------------------------------------|
| 1798. | { | General Maxwell of Parkhill. |
| | { | Sir James Dalryell of Binns, Bt. |
| | { | Thomas Livingston of Parkhall. |
| 1799. | | William Maxwell of Carriden. |
| 1800. | | Sir William Bruce of Stenhouse, Bt. |
| 1801. | | William Maxwell of Carriden. |
| 1802. | { | Alexander Macleod of Muiravonside. |
| | { | Thomas Livingston of Parkhall. |
| | { | General Maxwell of Parkhill. |
| 1803. | | The Earl of Hopetoun. |
| 1804. | | The Marquis of Douglas and Clydesdale. |
| 1805. | | Lord Archibald Hamilton. |
| 1806. | | The Honble. Alexander Hope, M.P. |
| 1807. | | Lord Elphinstone. |
| 1808. | | Viscount Primrose. |
| 1809. | | George Ramsay of Barnton. |
| 1810. | | William Murray, yr. of Polmaise. |
| 1811. | | The Honble. George Abercromby of Tullibody. |
| 1812. | | General The Honble. Sir John Hope, K.B. |
| 1813. | | The Honble. C. Elphinstone Fleeming of Cumbernauld. |
| 1814. | | Admiral William Johnstone Hope, M.P. |
| 1815. | | |
| 1816. | | Major G. H. Dundas, yr. of Duddingston. |
| 1817. | | The Earl of Hopetoun. |
| 1818. | | Thomas Graham Stirling of Airth. |
| 1819. | | Lord Torphichen. |
| 1820. | | |
| 1821. | | |
| 1822. | | Sir James Dalryell of Binns, Bt. |
| 1823. | | Sir James Dalryell of Binns, Bt. |

APPENDIX II.

1824. Admiral The Honble. C. Elphinstone Fleeming of Cumbernauld.
1825. The Earl of Hopetoun.
1826. Sir Thomas Livingston of Westquarter, Bt.
1827. James Johnston of Straiton.
1828.
1829.
1830.
1831.
1832.
1833.
1834-5. Colonel The Honble. G. R. Abercromby, yr. of Tullibody.
1835-6. Major G. H. Dundas of Duddingston.
1836-7. Sir Thomas Livingston of Westquarter, Bt.
1837-8. The Earl of Hopetoun.
1839. W. R. Ramsay of Barnton.
1840. W. D. Gillon of Wallhouse.
1841-2. Sir Thomas Livingston of Westquarter, Bt.
1842-3.
1843-4. William Forbes of Callendar.
1844-5. Norman Shairp of Houstoun.
1845-6. W. R. Ramsay of Barnton.¹
1847. William Baillie, yr. of Polkemmet.
1848. Major Henderson of Westerton.
1849. Andrew Gillon of Wallhouse.
1850. Sir A. C. Gibson Maitland, Bt.
1851. John Fleeming of Cumbernauld.
1852. Major Norman Shairp of Houstoun.
1853. Major Henderson of Westerton.
1854. Captain The Honble. James Sandilands.
1855. William Wallace of Auchinvole.
1856. Captain The Honble. James Sandilands.
1857. The Duke of Montrose.
1858. Major W. Ferrier Hamilton of Cathlaw.
1859. John Miller of Millfield.
1860. Captain Thomas Shairp, yr. of Houstoun.
1861. T. L. Fenton Livingston of Westquarter.
1862. Andrew Gillon of Wallhouse.
1863. William Wallace of Auchinvole.
1864. Captain W. M. Hankey of Middleton.
1865. William Stirling of Tarduf.
1866. Major W. Ferrier Hamilton of Cathlaw.

¹ Mr W. D. Gillon of Wallhouse was elected Preses 11th March 1846, but died 7th October 1846.

APPENDIX II.

- 1867. Sir William C. Bruce of Stenhouse, Bt.
- 1868. Peter M'Lagan of Pumpherston, M.P.
- 1869. Alexander Duncan of Glencarron.
- 1870. Major Thomas Shairp of Houstoun.
- 1871. Captain Robert Steuart of Westwood.
- 1872. Major William Stirling of Tarduf.
- 1873. Colonel Andrew Gillon of Wallhouse.
- 1874. Captain Spens of Lathallan.
- 1875. Captain Ramage Dawson of Balado.
- 1876. Colonel Shairp of Houstoun.
- 1877. Colonel William Stirling of Tarduf.
- 1878. T. L. Fenton Livingston of Westquarter.
- 1879. Colonel Andrew Gillon of Wallhouse.
- 1880. Colonel Hare of Calderhall.
- 1881. The Earl of Hopetoun.
- 1882. T. H. Campbell of Millfield.
- 1883. Captain William Gillon, yr. of Wallhouse.
- 1884. G. Falconar-Stewart of Binny.
- 1885. Sir James Ramsay Gibson Maitland.
- 1886. Captain G. B. M'Queen, Dundas Castle.
- 1887. The Earl of Hopetoun.
- 1888. Robert Bell of Cliftonhall.
- 1889. The Earl of Hopetoun.
- 1890. Thomas Hope of Bridgecastle.
- 1891. Captain Robert Steuart of Westwood.
- 1892. J. W. Thomson of Craigbinning.
- 1893. G. F. Melville, Lochcote.
- 1894. Charles Chalmers of Longcroft.
- 1895. John H. Younger, Foxhall.
- 1896. The Earl of Hopetoun.
- 1897. Captain Stair H. Johnston Stewart of Champfleurie.
- 1898. Thomas Hope of Bridgecastle.
- 1899. J. D. Bell of Cliftonhall.
- 1900. Captain Robert Steuart of Westwood.
- 1901. Charles Chalmers of Longcroft.
- 1902. H. M. Cadell of Grange.
- 1903. The Marquis of Linlithgow.
- 1904. J. A. Robertson-Durham of Boghead.
- 1905. J. W. Thomson of Craigbinning.
- 1906. H. M. Cadell of Grange.
- 1907. J. W. Thomson, yr., Craigbinning.
- 1908. Captain Robert Steuart of Westwood.
- 1909. Captain Robert Steuart of Westwood.
- 1910. Captain R. Dundas Orr, Carron Hall.

APPENDIX III.

LETTERS

RELATIVE TO THE PROPRIETORSHIP OF THE HOUNDS.

1857.

MR GILLON *to* MR SANDILANDS.

WALLHOUSE, *1st April* 1857.

MY DEAR SANDILANDS,

When we met the other day at the New Club, you asked me to send you my views in writing on the subject of the proprietorship of the L. S. Hounds, and when I now do so, I am expressing the feelings of many of the landed proprietors in the country hunted; in fact, all to whom I have spoken on the subject. Many of them are certainly not hunting men, but they are interested in, and their coverts are regularly drawn by the hounds.

In giving my views, I may again repeat, that I am actuated by no motives but those of interest in the Hunt, and its future prospects and welfare, and that I consider it most desirable that the above point be satisfactorily settled before another season commences, or as soon as this ends. I need only refer to two letters I showed you, to account for my withdrawal of subscription for two years; and it was from the latter of the two, dated 22nd September 1855, that I, for the first time, became aware that the fox-hounds were claimed for Mrs Ramsay as her private property. My knowledge of the history of these hounds can only reach back to 1824, when Johnston and my father hunted them. In 1828, they made them over to Mr Hay of Dunse Castle, who, in 1830, handed them over to Mr Ramsay, as he had received them, the L. S. subscription pack. No money was

APPENDIX III.

paid for them by Mr Hay, nor was any money paid to Mr Hay by Mr Ramsay; and according to the laws of fox-hunting, I believe, whoever receives in this way a subscription pack, is bound to give up as good and efficient a pack when his reign as master terminates, as he received when made over to him. In proof of this being in accordance with the laws of fox-hunting, I can refer to the case of the Warwickshire pack last year, which Lord Willoughby spent £3000 annually upon, getting a very small subscription from a large and wealthy country. He handed them over, after seventeen years, to the gentlemen of the country, saying, as he did so, "They are not my hounds, gentlemen, but yours." The master of a subscription pack should be chosen by the county, who are the best judges of his eligibility for that office.

Stirlingshire should not be given up by these hounds, as I consider the master is in duty bound to hunt the entire country to which the pack belongs, and has no more right to give up a district without the consent of the proprietors than assume a territory not his own.

If it be the desire of Mrs Ramsay, and a very natural one too, that her son should take these hounds, as his much-lamented father did before him, were this desire made known amongst the proprietors of coverts, tenantry, and subscribers, I feel sure that every one would come forward and render every assistance to keep up the credit and efficiency of the pack, till such time as the Young Squire could take the management.

On the other hand, should the pack be found to be private property, they might at any time be sold or removed to some other district, and we might be deprived of the pack altogether, and the interests of fox-hunting in this country seriously injured.

But, whichever way this question may be settled, it will be materially for the advantage of those hunting the country, that all doubt as to the proprietorship of these hounds be removed; and whether they remain the old L. S. Hounds, or whether they belong to the Barnton family; in either case I promise my humble support; only, with my views and feelings concurred in, as I tell you these are, by almost every one in the two counties to whom I have spoken on the matter, you cannot but acknowledge that it is only fair the question should now be definitely settled.

If Mrs Ramsay is agreeable that it should be so, we can have

APPENDIX III.

no difficulty in having it determined by reference according to the laws of fox-hunting, and in a way that I doubt not will be received as satisfactory by all interested.

I remain,

Yours most truly,

(Sgd.) A. GILLON.

Mr GILLON to Mr SANDILANDS.

NEW CLUB, *Wednesday, 1st April.*

MY DEAR SANDILANDS,

I beg to hand you my view as requested, on the L. S. Hounds question, &c., &c. I now submit them for your and Mrs Ramsay's consideration *alone*. There are one or two things that I did not like to allude to,—for instance, the death of the youth named,—life is always uncertain, or he might not care to carry on the hounds.

The hounds, I see, are branded with R., which is, I believe, a new arrangement. I withdrew my subscription before you were ever named as likely to hunt the country.

.

Yours ever,

(Sgd.) A. G.

[*Note*.—At first sight, it might be considered that these letters of Mr Gillon's were private—in this light I regarded them, until, by his letter of the 1st May, it appears that they had been read at a public meeting at Linlithgow, and that the county proprietors and subscribers are to be “put in possession of a copy of the letters which have passed.” I omit the concluding paragraph of the last of these letters until Mr Gillon gives me permission for its insertion.—J. S.]

MRS RAMSAY'S STATEMENT.

BARNTON, *22nd April 1857.*

Captain Sandilands having given me a letter addressed to him by Mr Gillon, in which he expresses a doubt as to my right of ownership of the hounds, I beg to state, that at the time of Mr Ramsay's death, which occurred on the 15th March 1850, the hounds were at Golfhall kennel, and that they remained in

APPENDIX III.

kennel from that time, and did not hunt again during the rest of the season.

A meeting was called of all interested in the hounds, which was held at the Waterloo hotel on the 8th May, and was numerously attended. Amongst those present I may name the late Mr Forbes of Callendar, Mr Falconar, Mr George Mitchell Innes, Mr Halkett Inglis, Sir James Boswell, Major Shairp, and the late Mr Peter Thomson, tenant of Hangingside. Major Shairp was called to the chair, and read a letter from me of which the following is a copy:—

“BARNTON, 7th May 1850.

“I wish it to be distinctly understood by all parties taking an interest in the hounds, that the establishment is to be kept on the same footing as formerly; that the hounds, &c., are *mine*, as they were Mr Ramsay’s; but as unfortunately, I cannot take the entire management myself, I give it in the *field* to Captain Sandilands and Mr Fleeming; as Captain S. from his frequent absence with his regiment, cannot undertake it altogether.

“From this it will be seen that I make a gift of the hounds to no one, nor do I give over my control in the arrangement of every matter connected with them, reserving that right to myself.

“(Sgd.) MARY RAMSAY.”

I also subjoin copy of a letter from Major Shairp which he was directed to write to me after the meeting:—

“HOUSTOUN HOUSE, 9th May 1850.

“I was requested by the meeting to communicate to you the subjoined expression of their feeling.

“That the chairman be requested to convey to Mrs Ramsay the deep sympathy of this meeting with her, on the occasion of her irreparable loss, coupled with their thanks for her liberal and generous offer, and the expression of their conviction, that by no other means could she have paid a higher tribute of respect to the memory of the late lamented master of the hounds.

“(Sgd.) NORMAN SHAIRP.”

Mr Gillon will observe, that had the country conceived the hounds were not my property, my right would have been chal-

APPENDIX III.

lenged at that meeting, when I was asserting a direct claim to them; whereas, on the contrary, it was recognised by those representing the counties of Linlithgow and Stirling.

As to a remark that a letter from Mr Dunlop, dated 26th September 1855, was the first intimation Mr Gillon had that the hounds were considered my private property, I can only express my surprise that he should so long have remained ignorant of what had taken place at the meeting of 1850, and of facts which were public to every one. But, after this statement, which I make without fear of contradiction, I decline all reference, as, in the circumstances which I have stated, my right is undoubted, and does not admit of challenge.

Considering, therefore, as I have already said, the meeting of May 1850 as final, it is unnecessary to proceed further; but I may quote circumstances which occurred previous to that time, which cannot but be fresh in the recollection of so many, that they might have served to enlighten Mr Gillon, and to show the general feeling on this point.

Mr Ramsay had never been supported in a pecuniary point of view. The late Earl of Hopetoun's subscription was withdrawn after three or four seasons; and, until later, when the late Mr Forbes of Callendar subscribed £100 a-year, the whole expense of the establishment—hunting four days a-week,—was defrayed by Mr Ramsay alone. Towards the year 1840, Mr Ramsay felt himself much aggrieved by some of the proprietors in Linlithgowshire. One proprietor, in particular, destroyed foxes and took every means to thwart him and to spoil sport. Consequently, in May 1841, Mr Ramsay sold off his stud, broke up the establishment completely, and without reference to any one, arranged for the hounds to hunt Forfarshire *alone*. As the season advanced, a request was made to Mr Ramsay to allow the hounds to hunt for a short time in this country. The correspondence was conducted through Major Shairp. Mr Ramsay positively declined to alter his arrangements, and the Fife Hounds were introduced and hunted the country—kenneling at Uphall.

From these statements, it is quite evident that, had the landed proprietors alluded to by Mr Gillon considered themselves as having property in these hounds, I should not have been allowed quietly to retain them in my possession as in 1850, without hunting the country after 15th March, until such time as it suited my convenience to call a meeting respecting them; and that, had the hounds been looked upon as public property, they would at no

APPENDIX III.

time have been allowed to be removed entirely from the country at the will of a private individual. By doing so in 1841, Mr Ramsay proved his ownership; and the fact of the Fife Hounds being brought in to hunt this country, which he had vacated, of itself showed that this was the general opinion.

With regard to the mastership of the hounds, I hope Mr Gillon will recall to his recollection a meeting which took place at Greliche's hotel in 1852, previous to Mr Fleeming undertaking a renewal of the office.

For the matter of the branding of the hounds with R., Mr Gillon labours under a complete misconception if he supposes it to be done as a mode of appropriation. My claim rests on other grounds; it is done as a security against loss, and I really cannot account for the precaution having been so long overlooked.

I have addressed this solely to Mr Gillon, because I am at a loss to discover who the unnamed parties are to whom he alludes in his communication as coinciding with him; and I cannot conclude without expressing my sense of the unhandsome manner in which I am dealt with after a lapse of seven years, during which time the gentlemen of the counties have certainly had no cause to complain of the establishment, carried on as it has been at a large personal expense, and at very little cost to them, for, with very few exceptions, it has been unsupported in a pecuniary way by the county gentlemen, although I have to acknowledge, from other quarters, various and handsome subscriptions.

(Sgd.) MARY RAMSAY.

Mr SANDILANDS to Mr GILLON.

BARNTON, CRAMOND,
24th April 1857.

MY DEAR GILLON,

Along with this I forward to you Mrs Ramsay's answer to the communication you made through me respecting the hounds, and she begs me to express to you her regret for the delay which has taken place on her part; but for the last month she has been so far from well, she has felt quite unequal to the task of making it out. As to what you say regarding the hunting of Stirlingshire, I have no wish to do otherwise than to hunt the country to the best advantage; but when one receives neither countenance nor money, you must agree with me I have to seek to accommodate

APPENDIX III.

my meets for those from whom I receive both. I have not given up Stirlingshire; but it is unreasonable to expect that, without subscriptions, I am to be tied down to hunt the country in any particular way.

Believe me,

Truly yours,

(Sgd.) J. SANDILANDS.

Mr GILLON to Mr SANDILANDS.

WALLHOUSE, 1st May 1857.

MY DEAR SANDILANDS,

I duly received your letter of the 24th, sending me Mrs Ramsay's answer to my letter to you of 1st April; and I can only say that it has not altered my opinion as to the proprietorship of the L. S. Hounds; and I shall leave others to judge whether my letter has been received by Mrs Ramsay in the same spirit in which it was written. I am sorry that Mrs Ramsay should rest her claim so strongly on the consideration shown her by the county gentlemen and subscribers, at a time when sympathising with her, as they did so sincerely, in the great loss which had befallen her, and it would have been strange indeed had they then indicated any opposition to her wishes. I did not see the letter referred to, but clearly understood that Mrs Ramsay was to carry on the hounds, and have the entire management, as Mr Ramsay had had for so many years. There are explanations, too, as to the hounds being taken to hunt Forfarshire for a time, which makes that of much less importance than Mrs Ramsay seems to attach to it.

Circumstances also occurred at a meeting held in 1852, Mr Fleeming in the chair, to which Mrs Ramsay has not alluded, which tend materially to weaken her claim.

There is also another circumstance, of which I suppose Mrs Ramsay cannot be aware—viz., that these hounds were bought by Mr Johnston from Lord Kintore; that in 1828 Mr Johnston sold these hounds, and they were purchased by the late Lord Hope-toun for £300, which sum of £300 was repaid his lordship by the counties out of his subscriptions.

But as Mrs Ramsay has made up her mind, and in very pointed terms declines a reference, it is of no use in my entering into further explanations, or continuing the correspondence. It is,

APPENDIX III.

however, satisfactory for me to know that, at a meeting I had at Linlithgow yesterday, with a number of the county proprietors, and to whom the correspondence was read, and to one or more of whom the history of these hounds is better known than to most other people, they were unanimously of opinion that these hounds are not private property.

Acting upon their advice and suggestion, I intend to bring the matter before county proprietors and subscribers, and give them an opportunity of expressing their opinions upon it. This I hope to do a little later in the season; but, in the meantime, I shall put them in possession of a copy of the letters that have passed between us.

I remain,

Yours most truly,

(Sgd.) A. GILLON.

BARNTON, 4th *May* 1857.

DEAR MR GILLON,

I have received from Captain Sandilands your letter to him of 1st May: and in acknowledging it, I shall only notice the assertion it contains, that I am resting my claim on the consideration shown me by the county gentlemen and subscribers at the meeting of May 1850,—an act of which I could not for a moment be guilty, and a charge from which I feel it necessary now to exonerate myself.

Truly yours,

(Sgd.) MARY RAMSAY.

APPENDIX IV.

DECLARATION BY GEORGE KNIGHT.

26TH DECEMBER 1866.

I, GEORGE KNIGHT, residing at West Port House, Linlithgow, Do solemnly and sincerely Declare as follows—In January 1825 the late William Downe Gillon, Esquire of Wallhouse, and the late James Johnston, Esquire of Straiton, came to me at Dalkeith where I was then residing and engaged me as huntsman for a pack of hounds which they had purchased from Lord Kintore at the price of £200 for the purpose of hunting Linlithgow and Stirling shires; and I left Dalkeith on the second of February to fulfil my engagement. Immediately on my arrival I went to Inglismaldie in Kincardineshire and brought down the pack which consisted of thirty couple of hounds. I had two whippers-in placed under me, and my first meet with them was at Linlithgow Bridge on the fourteenth of February 1825 when we found at Tods mill and killed at Hopetoun. After I came to Linlithgow I bought horses for myself and my men. Our kennels were at Winchburgh until August 1825 when we moved to the new kennels which had been then built on a field belonging to Mr Johnston at Bonnytoun entry, and the horses were kept in the yard attached to my house, which was at the West Port of Linlithgow, at the corner of the Bo'ness road. The kennels were built by Messrs Gowans & Landels, contractors, Linlithgow, for the sum of £650. Mr Johnston and Mr Gillon were joint-masters, but neither of them carried a horn. Mr Johnston took the chief charge and when he was in the field Mr Gillon did not interfere. Both of them wore white collars on their pink coats, black velvet vests and drab cords. We hunted three days a-week in Linlithgow and Stirling shires, and at times in

APPENDIX IV.

the west of Fife, and part of Dumfriesshire. We always travelled from Bonnytoun, except when in Fife, when we put up at Torryburn, or in the west of Stirling, when we remained in the town of Stirling, or in Dumfriesshire, when we put up at Lochmaben from which we hunted Mr Hope Johnstone's Annandale country. In the first two months I killed seven and a half brace, in my first whole season twenty-eight brace and in the succeeding one thirty brace of foxes. Mr Johnston and Mr Gillon were masters for three years and three months, and Lord Hopetoun in 1828, bought the hounds from Mr Johnston for three hundred pounds or guineas. I think the hounds and horses had been paid for by Mr Johnston—at least all the horses that were unsold were left at Champfleurie when I went to Dunse Castle. This, however, may have been by private arrangement between Mr Johnston and Mr Gillon. I understand that Lord Hopetoun offered the hounds as a gift to the gentlemen of the counties of Linlithgow and Stirling, but I cannot say anything about whether this was carried out or whether his lordship's subscription was suspended till he was repaid. When Mr Johnston and Mr Gillon gave up the hounds, Mr Hay of Dunse Castle took the mastership of them, and in the summer of 1828 I took the hounds to Dunse Castle. I remained at Dunse Castle until August 1830 when Mr Hay resigned the mastership, and Mr Ramsay of Barnton was elected by the county gentlemen as master in his room. Just before leaving the castle I gave up thirty-three couple and a half of hounds to Scott as Mr Ramsay's huntsman. I don't think that Mr Ramsay paid anything for the hounds. I never heard that he did. I always understood that he got them as the county property in the same way as Mr Johnston, Mr Gillon, and Mr Hay had done before him. Tom Rintoul was with Mr Ramsay all the time he was master, but he tells me he never heard from Mr Ramsay or any one else that they had been purchased from Mr Hay or from the county gentlemen. Mr Ramsay of course renewed the pack from time to time, and hunted the country in a very excellent way, but so had the previous masters. I understand that Mr Ramsay always got subscriptions more or less in the same way as the former masters. He sometimes hunted four days a-week. And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of an Act made and passed in the fifth and sixth years of the Reign of His Majesty William the Fourth, intituled 'An Act to repeal an Act of the present Session

APPENDIX IV.

of Parliament intituled an Act for the more effectual abolition of Oaths and Affirmations taken and made in various departments of the State, and to substitute Declarations in lieu thereof and for the more entire suppression of voluntary and extrajudicial Oaths and Affidavits and to make other provisions for the Abolition of unnecessary Oaths.'

Declared by the said George Knight }
at Linlithow, upon the 26th day } (Sgd.) GEORGE KNIGHT.
of December 1866 }

Before me
(Sgd.) W. H. HENDERSON of Linlithgow,
in the County of Linlithgow,
Notary Public.

APPENDIX V.

LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS

TO THE

LINLITHGOW AND STIRLINGSHIRE HUNT,

FROM THE TERMINATION OF THE UNION WITH EAST LoTHIAN TO THE
PRESENT TIME.

Seasons 1877-1909 (inclusive).

Adam, James	Edinburgh	1896-1903.
Aitken, James H. . . .	Gartcows, Falkirk	1890-1895 & 1898-1906.
„ Miss (Mrs C. T. Menzies)	„ „	1897-1900.
Alexander, A.	Cockburnhill, Midlothian	1877-1905, 1908 & 1909.
Allan, Robert	Edinburgh	1895-1902.
Anderson, J. C.	„	1877.
„ R. Rowand (Sir)	Colinton	1886-1888.
„ W. Herbert	Edinburgh	1896-1909.
„ Miss	„ „	1881-1884.
Annandale, J. H.	Polton	1877.
Archibald, G.	Edinburgh	1877.
Armour, Harry	„ „	1892-1909.
Artillery, Officers of the Royal	Leith Fort	1883-1885.
Artillery, Officers of the Royal	Piershill	1907-1909.
Field		
Ash, P. C.	Alderstone, Midlothian .	1897-1903.
„ Mrs P. C. (Mrs King- Steedman)	„ „	1897-99, 1902 & 1903.
Babington, W.	Edinburgh	1903-1909.
Baillie, A. H.	{ Champfleurie, Linlith- gowshire	{ 1878-1880.
„ Sir William	{ Of Polkemmet, Linlith- gowshire	{ 1877-1889.
Baird, Sir James Gardiner	{ Of Saughtonhall, Mid- lothian	{ 1877-1880.
„ William J. Gardiner (Sir, of Saughtonhall)	{ Edinburgh	{ 1881 & 1882.
Baird, James H. Gardiner	Yr. of Saughtonhall . .	1906, 1907 & 1909.

APPENDIX V.

Baird, John C.	Birchfield, Falkirk . . .	1908 & 1909.
Balfour, Major . . . . .	... . .	1879.
" Honble. J. M.	Edinburgh	1907.
Banks, R. G. Stanley	"	1886.
Barr, Hugh	Alderstone, Midlothian . .	1906-1909.
" Robert	Linhouse	1900-1903 & 1906.
" Thomas	Harburn	1877 & 1881-1899.
Barstow, Charles Murray	Edinburgh	1877 & 1878.
Baxter, E. G.	Of Teasses, Fife	1882, 1883, & 1885.
Bayley, Isaac F.	Edinburgh	1886.
Beattie, Miss J. J.	"	1907-1909.
Bell, John	"	1882.
" Robert	Of Cliftonhall, Midlothian .	1884-1890.
" John D.	Cliftonhall, "	1891-1894.
Bernard, J. Mackay	(Of Dunsinnan) Edinburgh .	1877, & 1892-1901.
Berry, Edmund	Edinburgh	1881-1883, 1885 & 1886.
Bertram, A.	"	1886 & 1888.
" Captain	London	1888.
Bird, The Misses	{ Bonnytoun, Linlithgow- shire. }	1907 & 1908.
Black Watch, Officers of the (73rd)	} Edinburgh Castle	1894 & 1895.
Blackwood, William	Edinburgh	1877-1893.
Blair, A. S.	"	1899 & 1900.
Blyth, H. Edgar	"	1899 & 1900.
Borthwick, Colonel A.	"	1884-1887.
Boyd, F. Morgan	"	1888.
Brandford, Professor	"	1883 & 1885.
Brown, James	{ Craigiehall, Linlithgow- shire. }	1880.
" H. J. Stuart	Glasgow	1908.
" P. Stuart	Bothwell Park, Bothwell . .	1898-1902.
" W. H. E. A. Johnston . . . . .	... . .	1893.
" Miss	Kilmeny	1884.
" Miss B. M.	Edinburgh	1907 & 1908.
" Miss G. M. (Mrs E. T. Carwithen)	"	1901 & 1902.
Bruce, Sir W. Cumming	{ Of Stenhouse, Stirling- shire. }	1877.
" W. P.	Kinleith, Currie	1877.
" Miss K. H. (Mrs A. L. Menzies)	" "	1887 & 1888.
Burn, C. M. Pelham	Prestonfield, Edinburgh . .	1887-1891.
Burton, J. Tait	Of Toxside, Midlothian . .	1877-1879.
Butter, Albert	Edinburgh	1877-1880.
Cadell, L. I.	"	1894-1897 & 1899-1909.
Cairns, W.	"	1885 & 1893.
Callender, L. A.	"	1897-1906.
Cameron, E. S.	Binny, Linlithgowshire . .	1890.
Campbell, Mrs Ord Graham	Edinburgh	1887 & 1888.
Carabiniers. (See Dragoon Guards) . . . . .	... . .	...
Carmichael, J. Thomson	Amisfield, East Lothian . .	1879 & 1880.
" W. Thomson	Colzium, Midlothian . . .	1878-1880.
" Thomas . . . . .	... . .	1877.

APPENDIX V.

Carr, Percy W. K., Seaforth } Highlanders	Blackness, Linlithgowshire	1908.
Chalmer, Major George . . .	...	1881.
Chalmers, Charles . . .	{ Of Longcroft, Linlithgow- shire	1885-1891 & 1897-1906.
„ W. Graham . . .	Edinburgh . . .	1899-1909.
„ Mrs W. Graham . . .	„ . . .	1904-1909.
Cheape, Captain G. Clerk } (M.F.H. Seasons 1887-9).	Of Wellfield, Fife . . .	1887-1889.
Chiene, Hall C.	Edinburgh	1899-1901.
Christie, T. Stark	Of Ballindean, Fife . . .	1877.
Clark, Edward	Edinburgh	1883-1909.
„ James	„	1886, 1887, 1889 & 1890.
„ J. Towers	Of Wester Moffat, Airdrie	1877-1880.
„ J. Stewart	{ Of Dundas Castle, Linlith- gowshire	1901-1909.
Connal, Captain, Royal Artillery	Leith Fort	1895.
Cowan, A. G.	Newton House, Midlothian	1905-1909.
„ Harold	Edinburgh	1898.
Couper, C. T.	„	1885.
Cowper, J. E. B.	Gogar House, Midlothian	1905-1909.
Cox, Major Ponsonby . . .	{ The Bridgehouse, Linlith- gowshire	1877-1882.
Crabbie, George	Edinburgh	1898-1909.
„ John (Royal Scots Greys)	Of Duncow, Dumfriesshire	1881.
Craig, Charles	Craigesk, Dalkeith . . .	1882-1885 & 1890-1897.
„ James	„	1880, 1881 & 1890-1892.
„ John	„	1882 & 1885-1894.
„ Robert	„	1881, 1882 & 1890-1892.
„ The Messrs	„	1877 & 1884.
Crawford, Donald (M.P.) . .	Edinburgh	1879-1884.
Cree, William	„	1882-1900 & 1902-1904.
Crichton, W.	Lanark	1877, 1883-1885 & 1887.
Croall, D. A.	Edinburgh	1892 & 1893.
„ N. G.	„	1891-1894 & 1897.
„ Miss (Mrs J. F. Mackay)	„	1880.
„ Miss (Mrs A. Melville) .	„	1893.
Crofton, Major Morgan, A.D.C.	„	1881-1883.
Croom, D. Halliday	„	1899.
Cross, Adam P. (M.F.H. Sea- sons 1890-94)	Craigiehall, Linlithgow- shire	1884-1894 & 1898-1909.
„ Alexander	Eastbank, Langbank . . .	1891-1894.
„ Robert	Edinburgh	1905-1909.
Dalrymple, Charles (Sir) . .	Of Newhailes, Midlothian	1877 & 1878.
Darling, Robert	„	1877.
Davidson, R. G.	Of Bogie, Fife	1883.
„ James I.	{ Saughton Mains, Mid- lothian	1904-1909.
Dawson, J. Gillon	Edinburgh	1877-1888 & 1900-1909.
„ H.	„	1901-1909.
„ J. D.	„	1901-1909.
Day, Captain H.	Scotstoun, Linlithgowshire	1888 & 1890-1892.
de Prée, C.	Edinburgh	1898-1907 & 1909.
Devastation, Officers of H.M.S.	...	1888.

APPENDIX V.

Dewar, James	Lassodie, Fife . . .	1887-1889.
Dickson, G. J. . . .	Edinburgh	1900, 1901, 1904 & 1905.
Dixon, R.	"	1907 & 1908.
Douglas, Captain . . .	"	1890.
Dragoon Guards, Officers of the 3rd	Piershill	1881.
Dragoon Guards, Officers of the 6th (Carabiniers)	"	1891 & 1892.
Dragoons, Officers of the 2nd (Royal Scots Greys)	"	1883, 1884, 1905 & 1906.
Dragoons, Officers of the 6th (Inniskilling)	"	1877-1879, 1895 & 1896.
Drimmie, T. L. . . .	Edinburgh	1882.
Drybrough, Andrew . .	Gogar Park, Midlothian .	1880-1883 & 1903-1909.
" Miss	" "	1903-1909.
" R. B.	" "	1907-1909.
" Thomas	Edinburgh	1877-1893.
" T. B.	"	1877-1895.
" W. J.	"	1881-1895.
" Miss (Mrs Binnie) .	"	1879-1882.
Duncan, William . . .	"	1881-1903.
" Miss	"	1896-1904.
Dundas, David (Lord Dundas).	"	1894 & 1895.
" Major T. G. . . .	"	1877.
Ewing, A. Crum . . .	{ Polmont Park, Stirling-shire }	1877-1882.
Eyres, Lieutenant, H.M.S. Devastation	{ " }	1886.
Featherstonhaugh, Captain .	Ashley, Midlothian . .	1886.
Ferguson, John	Edinburgh	1888-1892.
Finlay, C. M.	"	1899.
Finnis, Commander . . .	"	1887.
Fitzgerald, G. H., The Royal Scots	{ " }	1887.
Flett, Robert J. R. . . .	Edinburgh	1901-1909.
Forbes, William	{ Of Callendar, Stirling-shire }	1877-1882 & 1884-1886.
Ford, J. Johnston	Edinburgh	1895, 1896 & 1899-1909.
Fothergill, G. A. . . .	"	1892.
Fyler, Major	"	1878.
Gardner, W.	"	1877.
Gillon, Colonel Andrew (M.F.H. Seasons 1866-68)	{ Of Wallhouse, Linlithgowshire }	1877-1887.
" Andrew (M.F.H. Seasons 1906-09)	{ " }	1896, 1897, 1904 & 1906-1909.
" Henry	{ Of Wallhouse, Linlithgowshire }	1888.
Glendinning, George R. . .	Hatton Mains, Midlothian	1900-1903.
" Patrick B. . . .	Edinburgh	1906.
Goff, W. H.	Glasgow	1897-1899.
Gordon, Lieut.-Colonel W. E., V.C.	{ Perth }	1907-1909.

APPENDIX V.

Gordon Highlanders, Officers of the (92nd)	J.	Edinburgh Castle . . .	1882.
Grant, Miss A. L. (Mrs Dewar)		Edinburgh . . .	1887 & 1888.
„ G. J. Forsyth . . .		„ „ „	1877-1881.
Greig, J. L.	{	(Of Eccles, Berwickshire)	1894.
„ J. M.		Edinburgh	
Grey, Francis C. . . .		Airdrie . . .	1883.
Grove, W., H.M.S. Lord War-		Edinburgh . . .	1888.
den	{	„ „ „	1884.
Guild, J. Erskine . . .		Edinburgh . . .	
„ R. Harrower . . .		„ „ „	1892-1902 & 1904-1906.
Gwyer, S. K.		„ „ „	1893-1895 & 1897-1902.
		„ „ „	1896.
Haig, W. H.		Broomfield, Midlothian .	1877 & 1881-1883.
Haldane, F. G. . . .		The Lodge, Ratho . . .	1893-1902.
„ Mrs F. G.		„ „ „	1894-1899.
„ Herbert W.		Edinburgh . . .	1893-1901 & 1903-1905.
Halkett, Sir Arthur . .		Of Pitfirrane, Fife . . .	1878-1884.
„ Colonel J. Craigie . .		Of Cramond, Midlothian .	1877-1879.
Hall, W.		Edinburgh . . .	1897 & 1898.
Hamilton, Claud . . .		Prestonhall, Midlothian .	1877-1879.
Hardie, R. S. L. . . .		Of Ashley, Midlothian .	1905-1909.
„ Miss		Edinburgh . . .	1897-1900.
Hare, Colonel		Of Calderhall, Midlothian	1877-1888.
Harvey, J. L. G. . . .		Carsebridge, Alloa . . .	1904-1909.
Haynes, Major		Edinburgh . . .	1886.
Henderson, M. W. . . .		Linlithgow . . .	1902.
Herdman, C. W. . . .		Edinburgh . . .	1903-1909.
Hodgson, G. W. . . .		Kinauld, Currie . . .	{ 1885, 1886, 1888, 1889 & 1897.
Holtum & Welsh		Edinburgh . . .	1888 & 1890-1892.
Home, John M.		„ „ „	1884-1909.
Hope, H. W. (M.F.H. Lothians)	{	Of Luffness, East Lothian	1877 & 1878.
Hunt, Seasons 1869 & 70)			
„ James (M.F.H. Lothians)	{	Easter Duddingston, Mid-	1877-1880.
Hunt, Seasons 1871-76)		lothian	
„ Thomas	{	Of Bridgecastle, Linlith-	1891-1909.
		gowshire	
Hopetoun, 7th Earl of. (See	{	Hopetoun House, Linlith-	1877-1900.
also Linlithgow, 1st Marquis		gowshire	
of)			
Horne, T. E. O.		Edinburgh . . .	1877-1882.
„ Thomas		„ „ „	{ 1881-1888, 1894-1902, 1904 & 1906.
Hunter, Lieut. - General Sir	{	Gogar Mount, Midlothian	1902.
Archibald			
„ Dr		Linlithgow . . .	1884-1886, 1888 & 1889.
„ John L.		Edinburgh . . .	1898.
Hussars, Officers of the 4th		Piershill . . .	1885 & 1886.
„ „ „ 13th		„ „ „	1889 & 1890.
„ „ „ 15th		„ „ „	1887 & 1888.
„ „ „ 21st		„ „ „	1880.
Hutchison, James T. . .		(Of Moreland) Edinburgh	1877.

APPENDIX V.

Inglis, William	Leith	1878-1887 & 1896-1909.
„ & Son . . . . .	... . . . .	1897.
Innes, George Mitchell	{ Of Bangour, Linlithgow- shire }	1877-1880.
Inniskilling Dragoons. (See { Dragoons) . . . . .	... . . . .	...
Irving, W.	Lanark	1877.
Jackson, G. Erskine	Edinburgh	1906-1909.
Jameson, Miss	„	1907 & 1908.
Jamieson, A. Auldjo	„	1909.
„ James . . . . .	... . . . .	1877-1881.
Jardine, J. B., 5th Lancers . .	Edinburgh	1897.
Jeffrey, Miss . . . . .	... . . . .	1877 & 1879.
Johnston, L.	(Of Sands) Edinburgh . .	1885-1887.
Kennard, Major Arthur M. . .	London	1904.
Kennedy, A. M.	Edinburgh	1904-1909.
„ J. G.	„	1905-1909.
Ker, John A.	„	1877-1882.
Kermack, George	„	1885-1904.
King, W. J.	„	1889 & 1890.
„ Major, A.D.C.	Gogar Mount, Midlothian	1902.
Lancers, Officers of the 12th .	Piershill	1893 & 1894.
„ „ 17th	„	1902-1904.
Landale, — . . . . .	... . . . .	1880.
Law, James C.	Edinburgh	1885, 1886 & 1893-1895.
„ Miss	„	1896-1907.
„ Miss Mabel	„	1900-1909.
Lawson, Mrs	Gogar Mount, Midlothian	1904 & 1905.
Leadbetter, Thomas G. . . .	Edinburgh	1892-1902.
Learmonth, J. Livingston . .	Parkhall, Stirlingshire . .	1881.
Linlithgow, 1st Marquis of. (See also Hopetoun, 7th Earl of)	{ Hopetoun House, Linlith- gowshire }	1901-1907.
Linlithgow, 2nd Marquis of . .	„ „ „	1908 & 1909.
Linlithgow and Stirlingshire Hunt Club . . . . .	... . . . .	1908.
Linlithgow and Stirlingshire Hunt Ball Committee . . . .	... . . . .	1908.
Livingston, John Fenton . . .	{ Of Westquarter, Stirling- shire }	1885.
Logan, R. J.	Edinburgh	1905.
Longmore, John	„	1896-1909.
Low, Lord	„	1892-1900.
Luxford, O. Robertson . . .	Hanley Lodge, Midlothian	1882.
M'Barnet, Colonel	Of Torridon	1877-1890.
M'Bride, P.	Edinburgh	1895-1909.
MacDougall, J. Patten . . .	Of Gallanach, Argyllshire	1895-1907.
M'Dougal, Thomas	{ Dalhousie Castle, Mid- lothian }	1877-1879 & 1881-1887.
„ Captain	„ „ „	1879 & 1880.
Macfie, W. C.	Clermiston, Midlothian . .	1887-1890.
„ W. S.	„ „	1887-1890.

APPENDIX V.

M'Gill, Robert S.	Edinburgh	1877-1886.
MacGillivray, W. A.	"	1901-1909.
M'Hutchen, P. S.	"	1899 & 1900.
Mackay, James F.	"	1882-1886.
" Ian R.	Whitehouse, Midlothian	1909.
" Miss May L.	Edinburgh	1909.
M'Kay, Joseph	Bellavista, Duddingston	1899-1901.
M'Kelvie, James	Of Hatton, Midlothian	1895-1909.
Mackenzie, C. Kincaid (Lord Mackenzie)	Edinburgh	{ 1887-1891, 1893, 1895 & 1897-1905.
" J. H. Munro	Of Morinish, Isle of Mull	1886-1890 & 1895-1897.
" P. C.	Linlithgow	1885-1890.
" Miss	Edinburgh	1877-1881, 1886 & 1887.
" Miss Jean	"	1880, 1881, 1888 & 1889.
M'Kie, John (Major, D.S.O.)	{ Of "Bargaly, Kirkeud- brightshire	} 1889.
Mackinlay, Charles	Edinburgh	1896-1909.
Macknight, A. E.	"	1879, 1881, 1883 & 1884.
MacLagan, A. D.	{ Hawthornvale, Linlith- gowshire	} 1903-1909.
" R. C.	Edinburgh	1889-1891.
M'Lagan, Peter, M.P.	{ Of Pumpherston, Mid- lothian	} 1877-1891.
Maclaren, J. J.	Ratho Park, Midlothian	1907-1909.
M'Micking, Captain H., The Royal Scots	Edinburgh Castle	1896.
Macmillan, George	Corstorphine	1893-1902.
" John	"	1889-1899.
" John A. S.	Edinburgh	1891.
" T. F.	Corstorphine	1899-1909.
" W. R.	Edinburgh	1904-1909.
Macnab, John	Glenmavis, Bathgate	1881-1885.
" John, jun.	"	1898-1909.
Macpherson, C. J. Brewster	Of Belleville	1880, 1883 & 1893.
MacQueen, Dr	Edinburgh	1877.
M'Queen, Captain	{ Dundas Castle, Linlith- gowshire	} 1877-1899.
Madden, Mrs	Dechmont, Linlithgowshire	1888-1891.
Maitland, Sir James Gibson-	Of Cliftonhall, Midlothian	1877-1881.
Makellar, W. R.	"	1877-1880.
Margetts, Mrs F. H.	Alderstone, Midlothian	1898 & 1899.
Marshall, D.	Edinburgh	1902.
Marshall & Aitken	"	1895-1897.
Martin, Hugh	Hillwood, Ratho	1879-1903.
Maxwell, Sir Herbert	{ Of Monreith, Wigtown- shire	} 1877.
Meiklejohn, A.	"	1877-1879.
Meldrum, A. J. (M.F.H. 1910)	{ Of Dechmont, Linlith- gowshire	} 1892-1895, 1899, 1900 & 1909.
" E. B.	Dechmont, Linlithgowshire	1892-1898 & 1900.
" T.	"	1896-1898.
" Miss (Mrs Stephen)	"	1895-1900.
Melville, G. F.	Locheote, Linlithgowshire	1877-1893.
Melvin, A.	Edinburgh	1899-1908.
Menzies, A. L.	Larchgrove, Balerno	1899-1909.
" A. Murray	Of Avondale, Stirlingshire	1881.

APPENDIX V.

Menzies, C. T. (Colonel)	Edinburgh	1877, 1878 & 1881-1904.
" J. Graham (M.F.H.) Seasons 1884-86)	"	1881-1887.
" R. Stewart	{ Of Hallyburton, Forfar- shire	1884.
" W. D.	{ (Of Hallyburton, Forfar- shire)	1877-1883.
Metcalfe, T. Marshall	Edinburgh	1893.
Metcalfe & Swinburn	"	1897.
Miller, R. E.	"	1897 & 1900-1904.
" W. E.	"	1890-1892 & 1897.
Mitchell, R. A.	Of Millfield, Stirlingshire	1897.
Moir, P., & Son	Edinburgh	1877.
Moncur, A. B.	"	1887-1891.
" Miss L.	"	1888-1903.
Monteath, A. T.	"	1880.
Mosman, A. C.	Edinburgh	1902-1906, 1908 & 1909.
" Hugh	{ (Of Auchtyfardle) Edin- burgh	1886 & 1888-1890.
Munro, J. C.	Marchbank, Balerno	{ 1881-1886, 1888, 1889 & 1891.
" W.	" "	{ 1878-1884, 1886-1891 & 1894-1900.
" Miss. (See also Tra- quair, Mrs W., jun.)	" "	1882 & 1883.
Murray, Frank	Edinburgh	1881.
" John C.	Wardie, Edinburgh	1908 & 1909.
Napier, Macvey, H.M.S. Lord Warden	...	1884.
Nelson, Ian T.	St Leonard's, Edinburgh	1896-1898.
" T. A.	" "	1899-1909.
Nisbett, Captain	...	1881.
Normand, W. J.	Edinburgh	1885-1890.
" W. F. G.	"	1888-1892.
Ogilvie, Francis	"	1877-1880.
Orr, G. S.	{ Kinnaird House, Stirling- shire	1900-1909.
" Captain R. Dundas	Carron Hall, Stirlingshire	1898-1909.
" Mrs R. Dundas	" "	1902-1906, 1908 & 1909.
Palmer, Ernest E.	...	1881.
Park, J. D.	...	1877.
Paterson, J.	Of Bankton, Midlothian	1877-1882, 1884 & 1885.
" S.	Edinburgh	{ 1897, 1898, 1900 & 1904- 1903.
Patten, Archibald (A. & S. High- landers)	"	1888.
Pattison, W.	{ Wallhouse, Linlithgow- shire	1897 & 1898.
Peploe, Major Reid	Edinburgh	1887.
Pitman, A. R. C.	"	1877-1902.
" F. J.	"	1886-1889.

APPENDIX V.

Pitman, J. S.	Edinburgh	{ 1879-1890, 1892, 1893, 1897 & 1901-1909.
Platt, Major	Bridge of Allan	1881-1889.
Player, J. F.	Edinburgh	1894-1900 & 1904-1909.
Pollok, Mrs Ferguson	"	1891 & 1892.
Pritchard, R. G. M.	Craiglockhart	1909.
Raimes, R.	Leith	1883-1890.
Rankin, W. B.	Cleddans, Airdrie	1903-1909.
" The Misses	"	1903-1909.
Rankine, James	Rosebank, Falkirk	1890-1909.
Reid, Andrew	{ Haining Valley, Stirling- shire }	1888.
" James	Edinburgh	1886.
" John G.	Gorgie, Edinburgh	1902.
" W. R.	" "	1892-1902 & 1906.
" Captain, 71st Highlanders	" "	1880.
Richard, W. C.	Edinburgh	1900-1907 & 1909.
" W. M.	Clarendon, Linlithgow	1894-1900.
Riddell, A. Oliver (Sir)	Colinton	1885-1909.
" Andrew	Edinburgh	1896-1899.
Ritchie, Miss	"	1887-1890.
" Miss A.	"	1890.
Robertson, Alexander	Hoebridge, Melrose	1877-1888.
" Hugh (The Hon.)	Edinburgh	1897.
" J. P.	St Cuthberts, Melrose	1889 & 1890.
" L., 79th Highlanders	Edinburgh	1905.
" R. A.	{ Kirkland Lodge, Her- miston }	1899-1904 & 1906-1908.
" William	Edinburgh	1903-1909.
" W. P.	"	1886-1888 & 1893-1898.
Rose, H. A.	"	1900, 1902 & 1903.
Rosebery, Earl of	Dalmeny, Linlithgowshire	1877-1888 & 1895-1909.
Ross, John	Edinburgh	1902-1906, 1908 & 1909.
Royal Artillery. (See Artillery) . . . . .	... . . . .	...
Royal Field Artillery. " . . . . .	... . . . .	...
Royal Scots, Officers of the 1st	Edinburgh Castle	1896 & 1897.
" " " 2nd	" "	1884 & 1909.
Royal " Scots " Greys. (See } . . . . .	... . . . .	...
Dragoons) . . . . .	... . . . .	...
Russel, James (M.F.H. Seasons 1881-83)	Of Dundas Castle, Lin- lithgowshire }	1877-1898.
Russel, Miss (Lady Wilson-Todd)	Dundas Castle, Linlith- gowshire }	1884-1886.
Rutherford, C. D.	Edinburgh	1901.
Rutherford, James H.	"	1892-1909.
Sanderson, A. B.	Edinburgh	1901-1905.
" J. S.	Bankhead, Balerno	1909.
" W. M. W.	Cramond Bridge	1905.
Schaw, R.	Edinburgh	1884-1886 & 1888-1892.
Scobell, Major H. J., Royal } . . . . .	... . . . .	1898.
Scots Greys . . . . .	... . . . .	1898.
Scott, W.	Edinburgh	1883-1887, 1889 & 1890.
" Miss (Mrs J. Reid)	"	1886.
Seton, A. G.	(Preston, Linlithgowshire)	1887.

APPENDIX V.

Seton, C. A.	(Preston, Linlithgow-shire)	Templedean,	1885-1887.
„ W. B.	(Preston, Linlithgow-shire)	Templedean,	1884 & 1886.
Shairp, Colonel Thomas	Of Houstoun, Linlithgow-shire		1877-1889.
Shiels, Nicholas	Edinburgh		1883.
Sievrigh, J. V. Bedell	„		1908.
Simpson, F. B. (Royal Scots Greys)	Williamsraig, Linlithgowshire		1888 & 1889.
„ James	Edinburgh		1908 & 1909.
„ W. E. D.	Lymphoy, Currie		1888-1893.
Simson, D.	„		1894.
„ R.	Bonaly, Colinton		1903 & 1904.
Sinclair, C.	„		1879.
Skipton, H. S.	Edinburgh		1883-1885.
Smith, G. Gardiner	Georgeville, Midcalder		1899.
„ H.	Edinburgh		1907-1909.
Smyth, Captain R. N., A.D.C.	„		1897.
Somervell, G. C.	„		1882-1884.
Soote, G. G.	„		1881-1885, 1887 & 1889-1893.
Spence, R. H. Ogilvie	„		1898.
Stenhouse, John	„		1884 & 1885.
„ W. C.	Fod, Dunfermline		1882-1885 & 1889.
Stenhouse & Johnston	Edinburgh		1883.
Stevens, L. T.	„		1902.
Stevenson, H. J.	„		1896-1909.
„ R. M.	Of Ingliston, Midlothian		1899-1909.
Stewart, G. Falconar-	Of Binny, Linlithgowshire		1880, 1881, 1883-1886 & 1888.
„ M. Muir	Edinburgh		1902, 1905 & 1906.
„ Robert	Of Ingliston, Midlothian		1884.
„ Captain S. H. Johnston-	Of Champfleurie, Linlithgowshire		1895-1898 & 1900.
„ W. Burton	Ratho Park, Midlothian		1897 & 1898.
„ W. M.	Edinburgh		1897 & 1898.
„ W. Norman	„		1899 & 1905-1907.
Stuart, Archibald	Melville House, Portobello		1889.
„ Alexander	„		1888 & 1889.
„ R.	„		1888-1891.
Stirling, John	Of Muiravonside, Stirling-shire		1904.
Stoddart, J. E.	Of Howden, Midlothian		1897-1909.
„ Miss	Howden, „		1905-1909.
Sydserrf, J. Buchan-	Edinburgh		1900.
Tait, John Scott	Of Bavelaw, Midlothian		1906-1909.
Taylor, G. H. P.	Calderhall, „		1891-1893.
„ John	Edinburgh		1878-1881.
Thomson, A. D.	Alloa		1908 & 1909.
„ J. Graeme	„		1908 & 1909.
„ J. W.	Of Craigbinning, Linlithgowshire		1889-1893 & 1898.
„ J. Wishart	Edinburgh		1898-1909.

APPENDIX V.

Thomson, Mrs J. Wishart	Edinburgh	1909.
" R. H.	"	1877-1890.
" Seton M.	{ Preston House, Linlith- gowshire }	1899 & 1900.
" William	Edinburgh	1899-1909.
" The Misses	Ratho Hall, Midlothian	1884-1908.
Thornton, G. Muir	Edinburgh	1909.
Tod, A. J.	"	1909.
" H.	"	1899 & 1900.
" J. W. (J. W. Wharton- Duff of Orton)	{ ... }	1878 & 1879.
" Captain R. A. B.	Howden, Midlothian	1877.
" R. F.	Clerwood, Corstorphine	1880-1883.
" T. W.	" "	1880-1909.
Todd, Captain Wilson, 4th Hussars (Sir W. P. Wilson Todd)	{ ... }	1887.
" W. Lang	...	1877.
Torphichen, Lord	Calder House, Midlothian	1889 & 1890.
Towse, Harold B. (Royal Scots Greys)	{ Edinburgh }	1889-1894.
Traquair, W.	Colinton	1879.
" W., jun.	"	{ 1880-1893, 1895-1897 & 1899.
" Mrs W., jun. (See also Munro, Miss)	{ " }	1888-1890, 1896 & 1897.
Trevor, Lieut.-Colonel	Edinburgh	1902 & 1903.
Trotter, Colonel	...	1877-1879.
Tullis, R. Ramsey	Tullibody	1908 & 1909.
Turnbull, A. Gibson	Edinburgh	1899-1903.
" David	Linburn, Midlothian	{ 1878-1882, 1884-1888, 1892 & 1898.
" James	St Colme, Aberdour	1877, 1880 & 1884-1886.
" Mrs James	Hatton, Midlothian	1888-1894.
" P. B.	Luchie, North Berwick	1894.
Turpy, G.	Edinburgh	1877 & 1878.
Ure, Alexander, K.C., M.P.	"	1908 & 1909.
Usher, Francis J. (M.F.H. Seasons 1895-1905)	{ " }	1888-1909.
Usher, Fred (M.F.H. Seasons 1895-1905)	{ Morton Mains, Midlothian }	1888-1908.
" George	Edinburgh	1904-1909.
" John (Sir)	Of Norton, Midlothian	1877-1894.
" Robert, Sir (M.F.H. Seasons 1895-1905, 1906-1909, 1910)	{ " "	1881-1909.
" John T.	Yr. of Norton, Midlothian	1909.
" Miss M. M. (Mrs Crook- shank)	{ Edinburgh }	1905-1909.
Waddell, A. Peddie	"	1877.
Waldron, Captain P. J., 15th Hussars	{ " }	1883-1886.
Walker, Charles	"	1887-1890.

APPENDIX V.

Walker, James	{ (Of Dalry) Hanley Lodge, } Midlothian	1882-1899.
„ Captain J. Douglas, } D.S.O.	Edinburgh	1907.
„ R. H.	Of Hartwood, Midlothian	1889-1891.
Watson, C.	„	1877.
„ James	Edinburgh	1885 & 1892.
Watt, Thomas	„	1887-1889.
Watters, M. S. R. Watson	„	1892-1895.
Wauchope, Andrew (General)	Of Niddrie, Midlothian	1883, 1885 & 1898.
„ Major William John } (M.F.H. Seasons } 1877-1880)	„ „	1877-1881.
John D. Don (Sir)	{ (Of Edmonstone), Ed- } monstone, Midlothian	1881-1894.
Welsh, H.	Edinburgh	1877-1887.
„ W. H.	„	1893 & 1894.
Welwood, A. Maconochie	{ Of Kirknewtown, Mid- } lothian	1877-1880.
Weston, Colonel A. Hunter	Braehead, Midlothian	1909.
White, A. Ogilvy (Captain } Scottish Rifles)	„	{ 1882, 1886, 1889, 1890 & 1893.
„ A. Melville	Edinburgh	1889.
„ J. Cathcart	„	1881-1892.
Whigham, Charles F.	„	1904-1908.
Wielobyka, Baroness	„	1883.
Wilkie, Captain W.	Of Ormiston, Midlothian	1877-1881, 1884 & 1885.
Williams, T.	„	1877.
Wilson, James	Cathlaw, Linlithgowshire	1881 & 1882.
„ James	Bantaskine, Stirlingshire	1892-1895.
„ J. M.	{ The Leuchold, Dalmeny, } Midlothian	1908.
„ T. G.	„	1877.
„ Miss	Alderstone, Midlothian	1897.
Woods, Colonel	Edinburgh Castle	1897 & 1898.
Worthington, N. K., 3rd Dragoon } Guards	Edinburgh.	1905 & 1906.
Young, Charles	„	1895-1909.
„ J. P. A.	„	1909.
Younger, C. F.	Leckie, Stirlingshire	1909.
„ George	Edinburgh	1877-1899.
„ Harry G.	„	{ 1887-1889, 1900-1902, 1905 & 1906.
„ James, jun.	Alloa	1906, 1907 & 1909.
„ John H.	Edinburgh	1883-1906.
„ William	{ (Of Ravenswood) Edin- } burgh	1882-1909.
„ W. J.	Edinburgh	1898-1909.

INDEX.

- Abercromby, Hon. G., 56.
 Aberdour, Lord, 174.
 Ainsworth, —, 128.
 Aitchison, Colonel, 180.
 Aitken, Miss (Mrs C. T. Menzies), 290.
 Allan, William, 196, 263.
 Anderson, W. W., 245.
 Anstruther-Thomson, Colonel, 107, 116, 118, 162, 227, 234, 258, 285.
 Apperley, C. J. (see Nimrod).
 Armour, —, 172.
 Armour, H. ("Palafox"), 165, 305.
 Astor (1904), 321.
 Atherstone Comrade (1900), 20, 314, 320.
 Atherstone Dagon (1900), 21.
 Atherstone Trusty (1881), 275, 298, 299, 319.
 Atkinson, Charles, 13, 256.
 Atkinson, John, 12, 13, 185, 186, 214, 254, 255, 259, 270.
 Baillie of Mellerstain, 68.
 Baillie, Sir W., 1st Bt., 94.
 Baillie, Sir W., 2nd Bt., 137, 193, 216, 267.
 Baird, Sir D., 2nd Bt., 83.
 Baird, Sir D., 3rd Bt., 68, 214.
 Baird, Sir J. G., 216.
 Baird, Robert, 8, 57, 68, 212, 320.
 Barclay of Ury, 114.
 Barnton, 22, 30, 44, 47, 49, 59, 134, 135, 142, 156, 171, 182, 184, 191, 286.
 Barstow, C. M., 196, 230, 245.
 Beaufort, 8th Duke of, 230.
 Beaufort, 9th Duke of, 20.
 Beaufort's, Duke of, Druid (1904), 20.
 Beavan, James, 13, 273, 274, 282.
 Bedford (1830), 17, 134, 138, 145, 147.
 Bell, James, 117.
 Belvoir Gamester (1882), 320.
 Belvoir Gordon (1886), 287, 320.
 Belvoir Weathergage, 298, 320.
 Bentinck, Lord G., 143.
 Binning, D. M., of Auchenbowie, 50, 56.
 Binning, Lord, 215, 216.
 Blackwood, W., 195, 230, 232, 245, 257, 283, 284.
 Blankney Fairy (1883), 274, 298, 320.
 B'ormie (see Young, James).
 Boyd, John, 37, 62, 94, 109.
 Brandford, — ("Horningsfoft"), 264.
 Brocklesby Streamer (1891), 320.
 Bruce, Sir W. C., 182, 194, 205.
 Bruce, James, of Kinnaird, 56.
 Buccleuch, 5th Duke of, 69, 98, 121, 150, 212, 227, 228.
 Buccleuch, 6th Duke of, 69, 321.
 Buccleuch's, Duke of, Agent (1896), 321.
 Buccleuch's, Duke of, Trident (1892), 69, 299, 321.
 Buchan, 12th Earl of, 56, 98, 101.
 Buchanan, Sir D. C., 199.
 Burnet, — (Dolphinton), 196.
 Burrell, —, 128.
 Burton, Robert, 12, 36.
 Burton, J. Tait, 245.
 Cadell of Grange, 55.
 Caithness, Earl of, 94, 128.
 Caledonian Hunt, 27, 35.
 Callander, Alexander (Bathgate), 331.

INDEX

- Campbell, Lord, 76.
 Campbell, —, of Millfield, 194.
 Carmichael, Captain, 245.
 Carter, James, 46, 57.
 Chalon, H. B., 16, 46, 134.
 Cheape, Captain G. C., 10, 19, 273
et seq., 298.
 Cheape, Mrs., 285.
 Cheyne, Captain, 104.
 Chirside, Dr, 180, 194.
 Christie, Captain, 103, 128.
 Christie, —, 245.
 Clapperton, John, 165.
 Cochran, James, 195.
 Collison, Frank, 70, 77.
 Cope, T., 302.
 Cotesworth, Edward, 12, 13, 274,
 276, 279, 282, 283, 286, 287, 298,
 300, 303, 311.
 Cotesworth, R., 282.
 Cottesmore Hounds, Sale of, 17, 149.
 Country hunted, 6, 7, 8.
 (1797), 33.
 (1806-1810), 46.
 (1825-1828), 95.
 (1828-1830), 98.
 (1830-1850), 121, 122, 146, 154,
 155.
 (1850-1866), 178, 179.
 (1866-1869), 190, 191.
 (1869-1877), 217.
 (1877-1910), 246, 248, 258, 286.
 Cox, George, 200.
 Craig, James, 216.
 Crane, Thomas, 65.
 Crimean War, 166.
 Crofton, Major, 262.
 Crombie, Benjamin, 143.
 Cross, Adam P., 10, 13, 19, 285 *et*
seq., 298.
 Cumbernauld, 42, 47.
 Cunard's, Sir B., Beauty (1888), 274,
 298, 320.
 Cunningham, — (Dalachy), 177.
 Cunynghame, Sir W. A., 8, 21, 26
et seq.
 Cypher, Will., 318.
 Dalhousie, Earl of, 50, 55.
 Dalkeith, Earl of, 216.
 Dalkeith Kennels, 68. ³
 Dalrymple, Sir Hew, 216.
 Dalryell, Sir J., 39, 48, 56, 94.
 Dalryell, Captain R., 56.
 Darling (1895), 69, 321.
 Davidson of Cantray, Captain, 91.
 Davidson, J. I., 196.
 Dawson, Thomas, 116.
 Day, Captain, 291.
 Dechmont, 125, 137, 179, 290, 322,
 333.
 Dick, Keith, 94.
 Dickson, John H., 196.
 Douglas, Marquis of, 55.
 Douglas, Major, 154.
 Douglas, —, 15, 63, 64.
 Doune, Lord, 56.
 Drake, Rev. —, 188.
 Druid, The, 178.
 Drybrough, Thomas, 172, 183, 195,
 210, 216, 245, 257, 284.
 Drybrough, W. J., 277, 279, 304.
 Dudgeon, A., 196, 284, 291.
 Dudgeon, G., 180, 196.
 Dundas, G. H., 55.
 Dundas Castle, 259, 260, 289, 304.
 Dundas of Arniston, 128.
 Dundas, Colonel, 225.
 Dunlop, G., 144, 149, 171.
 Duns Castle, 22, 97, 105, 106.
 Edinburgh Hunt, 24.
 Edmonstone, Sir C., 56.
 Eglinton, Earl of, 17, 199.
 Elcho, Lord, 122, 150.
 Elphinstone, 12th Lord, 8, 11, 40
et seq., 49, 55 *et seq.*, 61 *et seq.*
 Elphinstone, 15th and 16th Lords,
 166.
 Elphinstone-Fleeming, Admiral, 55.
 Elphinstone-Fleeming, Captain, 9,
 11, 12, 23, 159, 163 *et seq.*
 Erskine (see Buchan, Earl of).
 Erskine, Sir T., 225.
 Falconar, Captain, 154.
 Falconar-Stewart, G., 154, 264, 303.
 Fenwick, G., 199.
 Ferrier of Belsyde, General, 49.
 Ferrier, L. H., 37, 50, 56, 66.
 Fitzwilliam's, Earl, Chanter (1891),
 20, 299, 320.
 Fletcher, A., of Saltoun, 225.
 Fletcher, J., of Saltoun, 214.
 Fletcher, — (Bangour), 245.
 Forbes, W., of Callendar, 104, 128,
 137.
 Forbes, W., of Callendar, 20, 151, 162,
 165, 194, 256, 257.
 Forbes of Culloden, 91.

INDEX

- Ford, — (Hardengreen), 215, 216, 245.
 Forrester, J., 163.
 Forrester, Richard, 12, 33 *et seq.*
 Fox and Hounds Inn, Linlithgow, 35.
 Frain, —, 78.
- Gatacre, —, 104, 128.
 Genitor (1896), 20, 275, 299, 311, 320.
 Gibson, — (Cliftonhall), 245.
 Gibson-Craig, W., 128.
 Gibson-Maitland, Sir A. C., 144, 147, 165, 180, 183, 184, 195, 210.
 Gillon, Colonel A. of Wallhouse, 30.
 Gillon, W. D., 9, 15, 22, 87 *et seq.*, 100, 103, 105, 106, 152.
 Gillon, Colonel A., 9, 17, 23, 108, 152, 165, 168, 172, 180, 185, 187 *et seq.*, 212, 215, 216, 228, 230, 241, 249, 255, 278.
 Gillon, Captain, 278.
 Gillon, Andrew, 10, 305, 309, 317 *et seq.*
 Glasgow, Alexander, 250.
 Glendinning, G. R., 196, 284.
 Golden Fox, The, 282, 288, 289, 290.
 Goldfrap, Mrs, 248.
 Gordon, Duke of, 91.
 Graham, Sir F., 174.
 Graham, J., of Underwood, 55.
 Graham, Joe, 220.
 Graham, T., of Airth, 55.
 Granger, Thomas, 12, 45, 48, 50, 51, 58, 63, 70.
 Grant, Sir Francis, 16, 78, 128.
 Grant of Kilgraston, 94.
 Gray, James, 196.
 Gray, Patrick, 196.
 Greenhill-Gardyne, Colonel, 199.
 Grey, F. C., 276.
 Grove Harkaway (1885), 320.
 Grove Furrier (1908), 319.
- Haddington, Earl of, 234, 245.
 Halkett, Sir A., 245, 257, 260.
 Hall, Tom, 13, 312, 314, 317.
 Hamilton, Lord A., 55.
 Hamilton, Colonel, 57, 68, 76, 77.
 Hamilton, —, 94.
 Hamilton, Major Ferrier, 189, 193, 210, 216.
 Hamilton, Claud, 216.
 Hankey, Captain, 172, 180.
 Hare, of Calderhall, 128.
 Hare, Colonel, of Calderhall, 245, 268.
- Hare, Miss Alice, 268.
 Harrison, Jim, 134.
 Harper, — (Bridge-end), 245.
 Hart, James, 102.
 Hay, Adam, 101.
 Hay, Robert, 97.
 Hay, W., 9, 10, 12, 15, 16, 22, 96 *et seq.*, 120, 128.
 Hay, Captain Peter, 133, 137, 147, 148, 149.
 Hay-Newton, Captain, 216.
 Henderson, J. G. B., 303, 332.
 Henderson, W. H., 210, 264, 303, 305.
 Hill, Waldron, 171, 180, 207, 208, 210, 211.
 Hislop, John, 46, 50, 58.
 Hogg, Joe, 271.
 Hoggan, —, 200.
 Hoitt, John, 272.
 Holdsworth, J. H., 171.
 Holmes, Colonel, 103.
 Home, — (Linhouse), 103.
 Home, — (Berwickshire), 103.
 Hope, Adrain, 225.
 Hope, H. W., 9, 18, 216 *et seq.*, 246.
 Hope, James, 9, 18, 215, 216, 221, 226, 228 *et seq.*, 247, 249, 255.
 Hope, Hon. J., 55.
 Hope, Hon. A., 55.
 Hope, Sir John, 55.
 Hope, Lady Dorothea, 257.
 Hope, Lady Estella, 257, 258.
 Hopetoun Family, 11.
 Hopetoun, 4th Earl of, 55.
 Hopetoun, 5th Earl of, 15, 100, 105, 128, 131, 133.
 Hopetoun, 6th Earl of, 165, 189, 192, 193, 216, 219, 330.
 Hopetoun, 7th Earl of (See Linlithgow, 1st Marquis of), 241, 249, 254, 261, 284, 285, 300.
 Hopetoun House, 23, 48, 92, 192, 252, 253, 258, 300, 303, 309, 335.
 Hope-Johnstone, of Annandale, 95.
 Hope-Vere, J. J., 56.
 Horne, Thomas, 172, 231.
 Horne, T. E. O., 171, 195, 210, 217, 230, 232, 245, 263.
 Horton, Richard, 13, 199, 200, 201.
 Hostile (1902), 21, 299, 319, 320.
 Hounds, The, Nimrod on, 131.
 House of Lords, Appeal, 164.
 Houstoun Family, 11, 30.
 Hoxford, Fred., 318.
 Hunter, — (Haugh), 245.

INDEX

- Hunt Ball, The, 38, 39, 289.
 Hunt Club, The, 32, 33, 109 *et seq.*, 165.
 Hunt Stakes, The, 56, 57.
 Huntly, Marquis of, 50, 56.
 Huntsman's Disbursements (1808-9), 52.
 Hurworth Tuscan (1901), 319.
- I'Anson, W., 116, 141.
 Inglis, J. S., 94.
 Inglis of Torsonce, 144.
 Inverurie, Lord, 150.
- Johnston, J., 8, 15, 22, 87 *et seq.*, 100, 105, 106.
 Johnston-Stewart, Captain, 310.
 Johnstone's, Captain, Templar (1888), 275, 287, 298, 299, 320.
 Johnstone's, Captain, Trueman (1884), 275, 287, 298, 299, 320.
 Johnstone-Hope, Captain, 56.
 Jones, John, 13, 169, 172.
- Keith, Lord, 55.
 Kelburne, Lord, 7, 107, 121.
 Kennels used—
 Amisfield, 23, 213.
 Barnton, 22, 122, 135, 286.
 Bonnytoun, Linlithgow, 22, 94.
 Carnbroe, 23.
 Carnwath, 23.
 Doghouses, The, 21, 27, 29.
 Duns Castle, 22, 23, 98, 122.
 Forfar, 23, 144.
 Golfhall, 22, 23, 169, 183, 208, 215, 248.
 Hamilton, 22.
 Kersewell, 23, 169.
 Kettleston, 22, 98.
 Laurieston, 21, 22, 23, 122, 169, 192, 209.
 Linlithgow, 21.
 Newmains, 23, 122.
 Winchburgh, 22, 72, 91, 94.
- Ker, J. A., 196.
 Kerr, — (The Bloom), 197, 245.
 Kerr, A. (Linlithgow), 331.
 Kerr, Lord Schomberg, 216.
 King's Cramond, 44, 49, 62.
 Kinnoull, Lord, 56.
 Kinloch, Sir Alexander, 212, 214, 215.
 Kintore, Earl of, 15, 17, 88, 149, 150.
 Knight, George, 12, 91, 93, 101, 107, 108, 163, 272.
- Lanercost, 116, 141, 142.
 Langton Kennels, 68.
 Lesslie, J., 197, 284, 304.
 Lindsay, R., 128.
 Linlithgowshire, Description of, 1, 3, 6.
 Linlithgow, 1st Marquis of, 11, 310, 311, 323, 324 (see also Hopetoun, 7th Earl of).
 Linlithgow, 2nd Marquis of, 12.
 Lively (1868), 21.
 Livingstone, Thomas, 49, 56.
 Livingstone, Peel of, 28.
 Livingstone House, 27, 28, 29, 31.
 Lizars, Professor John, 138, 143, 149.
 Lockhart Arms Inn, Carnwath, 180.
 "Lord Warden," Officers of H.M.S., 250.
 Lothian Hounds, Expenses of (1816-1824), 75.
 Lothian Hannibal (1820), 320.
 Lothian Skilful (1820), 320.
 Luck, Thomas, 58.
 Luffness, 219.
- M'Barnet, Colonel, 215, 228, 249, 257.
 M'Bean, —, 103.
 M'Culloch, W., of Ardwall, 144.
 Macdowall, W., 55.
 Macdowall, Captain D., 50, 55.
 Macfie, —, of Clermiston, 216.
 Mackenzie, Miss, 257, 262, 277.
 Mackenzie, Hay, 128.
 M'Kenzie, Learmonth, 210.
 Maclean of Ardgour, 50, 56.
 Maconochie, Sheriff, 94.
 Macknight, A. E., 196, 262.
 M'Lagan, P., 179, 195.
 Makepeace, Captain, 128.
 Maiden, Harry, 286.
 Maitland, Colonel K. R., 149.
 Maitland, K. R., 47, 51.
 Marlow, Thomas, 169, 171.
 Marr, James, 180.
 Martin, Hugh, 262, 263, 264.
 Mary, H.R.H. Princess, 252.
 Maxwell, General, 39, 56.
 Maxwell, Sir H., 141.
 Maxwell, Sir W., 63, 133, 141, 154.
 Maxwell, Colonel, 56.
 Maxwell of Carriden, 39, 56.
 Mayou, —, 128.
 Meiklam of Carnbroe, 107.
 Meldrum, A. J., 10, 13, 332 *et seq.*

INDEX

- Meldrum, E. B., 303, 333.
 Meldrum, T., 333.
 Meldrum, Miss (Mrs Stephen), 333.
 Melville, G. F., 284, 285.
 Melville, Viscount, 216, 225.
 Menzies, Colonel C. T., 262, 263, 277, 283, 285.
 Menzies, J. G., 10, 19, 263 *et seq.*
 Middleton, Captain J., 260.
 Miller, Professor James, 82
 Miller, Sir James, 315.
 Milne of Faldonside, 238.
 Mitchell-Innes, G., 194, 216, 245.
 Montrose, Duke of, 55, 56.
 Morgan, Sam., jun., 13, 317, 318, 322, 326, 328.
 Morton, 18th Earl of, 128, 174, 225.
 Morton, Lady, 225.
 Mosman, Hugh, 263, 265, 269, 283, 285.
 Moray of Abercairney, 94.
 Moubray, Captain, 177.
 Munro, J. C., 262.
 Murray, William, yr. of Polmaise, 8, 21, 56, 61, 63.
 Murray, Hon. A., 56.
 Murray, Tom, 139.

 Nasmyth, Alexander, 14, 45.
 Nason, Henry, 13, 169, 171.
 Nepean, Sir Molyneux, 182.
 Niddrie Marischal, 248, 250.
 Nimrod, 6, 113, 129, 131, 133.
 Norvell, C. S., of Boghall, 94.
 North Staffs. Sailor (1905), 319, 320.

 Oakley Rhymer (1882), 320.
 Orr, Major, 163.
 Orr, John, 171.
 Orvis, Will, 300, 312.
 Oswald of Auchencruive, 199.
 Oswald of Dunnikier, 199.
 Outhwaite, Joseph, 200.

 Paris, — (Cockleroi), 197.
 Paterson, J., 245.
 Payne, Charles, 330.
 Peninsular War, 65.
 Penney, John, 3.
 Pitman, J. S., 265, 269, 277.
 Place, —, 128.
 Ponsonby-Cox, Major, 194, 325.
 Potts, W., 12, 165, 166.
 Primrose, Lord, 55, 56.
 Primrose, Hon. F. W., 55.

 Princess Mary, 252.
 Puckeridge, draft from, 318, 319.
 Purslow, Robert, 12, 169.

 Queen Victoria, 135, 308.
 Queensberry, Marquis of, 220, 224.

 Ralph, — (The Park), 197.
 Ramsay of Barnton, George, 8, 10, 21 30, 43 *et seq.*, 56, 59, 60, 65, 67, 156.
 Ramsay, W. R., 9, 10, 15, 22, 57, 103, 104, 112 *et seq.*, 156.
 Ramsay, Hon. Mrs W. R., 17, 158, 168.
 Ramsay, C. W. R., 9, 10, 17, 23, 171, 174, 181 *et seq.*
 Ratchiffe, Sir J., 128.
 Redfern, —, 172.
 Reid, A. (The Haining), 197, 284.
 Reynardson, Captain, 225.
 Richardson, Andrew, 36.
 Richardson, Captain, 129.
 Rickaby, Major, 129.
 Riddell, —, 245.
 Rintoul, Thomas, 12, 118, 120, 140, 147 *et seq.*, 159, 162, 163, 272.
 Ritchie, —, of Middleton, 216.
 Roberts, C., 169.
 Robertson, Arthur, 245.
 Robertson, Alexander, 245.
 Robertson, James, 118.
 Rompish (1888), 274, 299.
 Ross, John (Hopetoun), 301, 332.
 Rosslyn, Earl of, 165, 213.
 Russel, James, of Dundas Castle, 10, 13, 19, 254 *et seq.*, 304.
 Russel, Miss (Lady Wilson Todd), 257, 258.
 Russel, James, of Woodside, 56.
 Russell, Captain, 129.
 Ruthven, James (Beecraigs), 198.

 Sandilands, Hon. James, 9, 11, 17, 23, 123, 133, 144, 159, 167 *et seq.*, 180, 181, 184.
 Sandilands, Hon. Mary (see also Ramsay, Hon. Mrs W. R.), 113.
 Scott, Alexander, 224, 226.
 Scott, Christopher, 12, 57, 62, 105, 118, 120, 122, 123, 124, 132, 136, 140, 144, 145.
 Scott, Lord John, 128.
 Scott, John, 183, 185.
 Scott, Sir W., of Ancrum, 128.
 Shaip of Houstoun (see Houstoun family).

INDEX

- Shairp, Major Norman, of Houstoun, 95, 99, 103, 120, 133, 138, 172.
 Shairp, Thomas, of Houstoun, 100.
 Shairp, Colonel Thomas, of Houstoun, 172, 180, 194, 216, 226, 228, 230, 285, 286.
 Sharpe, W., 144.
 Shanks, Mrs, 279.
 Shaw-Stewart, Sir M., 56.
 Shepherd, Jack, 273.
 Shore, William, 58, 106, 169, 170.
 Sibbald, Sir R., 1, 28.
 Simpson, of Plean, 55.
 Simpson, George (Falkirk), 330, 331.
 Skene, William, 150.
 Smellie, John, 55.
 Smith, Fred, 200.
 Smith, Squire Tom, of Hambledon, 280.
 Smith, Tom, 170.
 Sommerville, Lord, 199.
 Sothern ("Lord Dundreary"), 199.
 Spiers, R., 129.
 Star and Garter Hotel, Linlithgow, 111, 167, 180, 305, 330.
 Stark, R. (New Farm), 284, 290.
 Steel, Gourlay, 244.
 Steuart, Captain R., of Westwood, 194.
 Stewart, P., 104.
 Stirling, G. Chalmer, of Larbert, 194.
 Stirling of Keir, 112.
 Stirlingshire, Description of, 2.
 Stodart, John (Bangour), 197.
 Stoddart, J. E., of Howden, 31.
 Stracey, James, 12, 13, 169, 172 *et seq.*, 179, 185, 272.
 Subscribers, 1825, 90.
 Subscribers, 1853, 165.
 Swan, John, 245.
 Tait, George, 233.
 Tait, Tom, 195.
 Teck, H. R. H. Duke of, 252.
 Thomson, John (Wallhouse), 330.
 Tod, T. W., 194.
 Torphichen, Lord, 285.
 Treadwell, James, 211.
 Tuff, Trueman, 17, 183, 185.
 Turnbull, James, 195, 215, 216.
 Uphall Inn, 192, 277, 287, 300.
 Usher, Fred, 10, 19, 295 *et seq.*, 305, 307, 310, 314, 315, 328.
 Usher, F. J., 10, 295 *et seq.*, 315.
 Usher, Sir John, 196, 245, 257, 268, 284, 285, 292, 309, 310.
 Usher, Sir Robert, 10, 11, 13, 20, 283, 295 *et seq.*, 315, 316, 332, 333, 334.
 Usher, Lady, 195.
 Valentia, Lord, 147, 149.
 Victoria, H.M. Queen, 135, 308.
 Walker, —, 182.
 Walker, Mrs (Harrogate), 46, 64.
 Wallace, —, of Auchinvole, 180.
 Wallace, J. M., of Kelly, 50, 55.
 Wallhouse, 86, 152, 175, 178, 187, 192, 207, 278, 317.
 Wardrop, Dr, 129.
 Wardrop, W. M., 180.
 Warwickshire Hermit (1889), 320.
 Watson, Stewart, 17, 171.
 Watson of Saughton, 55.
 Wauchope, Major W. J., of Niddrie, 9, 228, 246, 247 *et seq.*, 254, 259.
 Wells, Harry, 233.
 Wemyss, Earl of, 225.
 Wemyss, Randolph, 258, 273.
 Whyte-Melville, G., 199.
 Wilkie, James, 56.
 Wilkie of Ormiston, 120.
 Wilkie, Archibald, 129.
 Wilkie, Captain, 257.
 Williamson, W., 57, 68, 69, 70, 71, 73, 76 *et seq.*, 272.
 Williamson of Lixmount, 103.
 Williamson, G., 129.
 Williamson, Miss (Galashiels), 81.
 Williams, Captain Percy, 214.
 Wilson, — (Gateside), 197.
 Wilson, — (Cowden), 246.
 Wood, John, 144.
 Woodcock, T. M. (Linlithgow), 280, 330.
 Woodger, Jack, 318.
 Wooten Wawen, 272.
 Younger, George, 284, 285, 304.
 Younger, William, 291, 292.
 Young, James (B'ormie), 197, 198, 331.
 Young, James (Linlithgow), 331, 332.
 Young, Thomas (Oatridge), 197, 241.

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INCLUDING THE COUNTRY NOW HUNTED AND A CONSIDERABLE PART OF THE COUNTRY FORMERLY HUNTED.

SCALE - 1 INCH TO 1 MILE

- COUNTY BOUNDARIES
- BOUNDARIES OF PRESENT COUNTRY
- FOX-COVERTS
- PLACES OF MEETING
- SITES OF KENNELS

